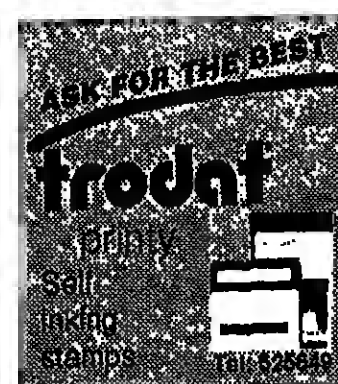


THE STAR'S WEEKLY COMPUTING & HIGH TECH NOTES



Al Alamiyah's long awaited product: Sakhr's Arabization for Windows 3.0

By Zeld Nasser
Star Staff writer

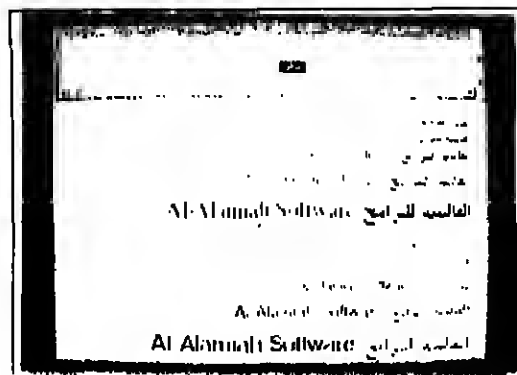
AL ALAMIAH SOFTWARE have come up with the first Arabization of a Windows 3.0 environment. Their package Windows 3.0 Arabization release 1.0 includes standard specifications for similar Arabic Graphical User Interface (GUI) systems like Windows, OS/2, X Windows and others, providing the ideal localization to Arabic and similar languages.

The Arabization is basically a shell that runs over Windows 3.0 and handles all the Arabization aspects for all applications. Hardware requirements are an 80286 Microprocessor, 1 Megabyte of RAM, a 3.5 inch disk drive and a hard disk drive. The computer should be running MS-DOS v3.1, at least, and Windows 3.0. Running the installation tool over the original Windows should make your application capable of running both Arabic and Latin applications simultaneously.

The software comes in a comprehensive package including three 720 KB diskettes and a detailed manual in Arabic which includes twelve chapters explaining how to run and operate the software. The package itself is going to cost around JD 260 and should be available within a month. It will include a Window Arabization Kit (WAK) including a variety of programs, an interface Arabization Kit (IAK), Arabized Interface Kits (AIK), Sakhr Software Development Kit (SSDK) and some support tools.

The main features include: SKRMENU which enables the user to modify the Arabization parameters for Arabized applications according to his convenience, multi-tasking allowing Sakhr Arabization to support each task in having its own Arabization parameters, keyboard op-

tions offering the user the choice of keyboard layout or to work with the keyboard layout for the Sakhr Arabization for DOS. Then there are Code pages presenting the user with the ability to load any code page through SKRMENU. Other features include a system editor, initialization and fonts. Each Latin font will be associated with an Arabic font and all types of fonts are supported. As for printing, there won't be any need to modify or build new drivers with lasers and postscript. A tool will be provided



customize the Arabization without constraints. These features support aware and unaware applications. Latin applications, which include complicated text typesetting operations will get less benefit from the transparent Arabization because of the lack of features in the application's support to Arabic language. To benefit from the Arabization features in the Arabized Windows on sophisticated word processors and desktop publishing programs you need to run ARBAPP (Arabize Application) over it once.

A team of programmers is currently working on making Sakhr's Arabization for Windows compatible with Windows 3.1, taking into consideration compatibility with previous Arabic programs and others under development.

All in all the product looks exciting and is already popular, but will it satisfy the needs of Arabic Windows users? That remains to be seen once it is officially released.

ed to run once over the original driver before use with Arabized Windows for dot-matrix printers. Customization is also taken care of with a comprehensive set of tools provided with the Arabization which enables the user to

JCS seminar

The Jordan Computer Society held a seminar on Uninterruptible Power Systems for Computers (UPS) presented by Abd Al Ilah Al-Draiy at the Amman Chamber of Commerce yesterday.

Topics included common UPS techniques, latest designs and definition of terms, transients and installation strategy, generator operations. Related topics were discussed afterwards along with questions from the audience.

Tourist Information Service (VIP)

The Minaret Foundation has founded the Visitor Information Package (VIP), to provide multimedia tools for a direct calling market place as a computer based, 24-hour-a-day service. VIP intend to operate in a tourist community by introducing a Talking Directory, which will be accessed via any standard telephone by dialing the widely advertised local telephone number: 682642.

Information will cover hotel reservations, car rentals, sightseeing tours and the Jerash festival.

The service will be divided into two categories: First, basic listing by giving a description of the subscriber service and his own telephone number. Second, the direct way to the market where the caller will be automatically connected with the service.

Farcus



We're trying to reduce the paperwork.

INTERFACE BY ZELD NASSER

Ink decisions

MANY READERS have been expressing problems with and sending enquiries about the sources of ink in their printers. Here are some basics about ribbons, cartridges and toners. Let's start by naming the different types of printers and their sources of ink.

First, there are dot matrix printers, which use ribbons; then, you've got ink-jet printers which use cartridges and laser printers which use toners. Prices of ribbons and cartridges are a major factor in helping users decide on the type of printer they want to buy.

Let's start with dot matrix printers, which are the most popular printers amongst computer users because they're cheap and so are their ribbons. They're capable of up to 500 CPS (Characters Per Second) and should be able to print some 300-600 pages. Ribbons are a main cause of suicide for most printer users when they run out of ink at crucial moments. It would be wise to know how many pages a ribbon is capable of printing and change it at the right time.

Why does ink dry up? Good question. This usually happens when a printer is infrequently used or when its ribbon is starting to run out of ink. In both cases it is much better for the health of your printer to change the old ribbon for a new one. Color ribbons are no exception, the same applies to them. Naturally the price of a color ribbon is more.

Still, if you're going to worry about prices, you'll be shocked to know that the cost of a new toner for a laser printer varies between \$120-\$200. It costs around JD100 at most suppliers in Jordan and you can print between 3,000-4,000 pages with the cost of printing one page at around 25 Fils.

The problem with laser printers is that they're so expensive. Still, the quality you get from a laser is simply unrivalled. Recently, I've seen some ink-jet printers produce documents which look so much like a laser print-out. Ink-jet printers use cartridges containing enough ink to usually print around 500 pages, but if the printer is heavily used it might be necessary to replace them every couple of weeks or so. That's why using a dot-matrix might be more reasonable if you're planning to print over a hundred pages a day.

Recycling is the latest craze in ribbon technology. Instead of allowing your ribbons to end up in the garbage you can re-ink them for almost half the price! This can be repeated up to ten times and it is claimed that the quality of printing doesn't change. It's a much better alternative to burning them, since they release dangerous gases. I must admit that I don't know of any Jordanian firm which offers this service yet, though. This process also applies to laser printers' toner cartridges, which is a service offered by many suppliers in the country.

A friend of mine once faced a problem with his Epson printer when he didn't use an Epson ribbon. The dealers claimed that using third party ribbons actually damages printing pins. Printer ribbons, like all other computer supplies, are available from different manufacturers and at different prices, so when a manufacturer claims that his ribbon is "Epson compatible" it might be "Epson destructible".

Printers can sometimes drive you crazy, and running out of ink at a crucial moment is a good reason for falling apart, but with a little bit of planning and coordination with a specific supplier your problems should be solved. Just remember to consider the prices of your sources of ink.

The Star

Jordan's political, economic
and cultural weekly

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Somalia's Hell on Earth



Algeria's
search for
reconciliation

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THE STAR'S
WEEKLY
NOTES

Quadra turns 33

The JD 50 binary

question

Interface: Let's
talk

Upon the Occasion of
Al-Hijra Year



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The Star
Jordan's political, economic
and cultural weekly



JORDAN

W E E K

An unconventional report on
Jordanian news and views

Jordanians oppose American proposal

Jordan's decision to turn down an American proposal to deploy UN observers in Aqaba and along the Kingdom's borders with Iraq was well received by all Jordanians.

Officials, however, said privately that it was not the end of the matter and that pressures on Jordan would continue to mount. His Majesty King Hussein has told newspaper editors and foreign correspondents that he opposed the proposal because it violated Jordan's sovereignty and targeted the Kingdom's credibility. He promised to take the issue to Parliament.

Meanwhile, the local press reacted by publishing a series of articles attacking the Gulf countries, which it accused of standing behind the current libel campaign against Jordan, along with others. Columnists made it clear that Jordan would withstand these pressures and reiterated Jordan's adherence to international law. *Ad Dustour* columnist Mohammad Dawoudieh wrote that in practice, Jordan is under siege, since all ships sailing to Aqaba are stopped or searched. In many cases, he said, the ships were sent back or had their cargo destroyed. He said 14,000 vessels had been intercepted since the beginning of the Gulf crisis.

Mr Dawoudieh added that Jordan is the target of a smear campaign because of its position during the Gulf crisis.

Al Rai newspaper wrote that Jordan is being victimized because of its democratic choice. It said the attacks against Jordan would not weaken this country's commitment to democracy and respect for human rights.

Cement shortage persists

Chairman of the Jordan Cement Factories Co. (JCFC), Dr Bassam Al Saket, has said that demand for cement has decreased since JCFC began flooding the market with 10,000 tons daily. JCFC announced a JD 4.4 million profit last year and foreign currency earnings of \$35.6 million. The company produced 1.7 million tons of cement last year, of which 1.5 million tons were sold locally.

Meanwhile, shortages in white

cement have continued to force the Ministry of Trade and Industry to allow merchants to import this material. The ministry also issued import licenses for other construction materials as shortages increased. Jordan's single white cement factory has been asked to stop its foreign exports to meet local demand.

Ghor farmers in trouble

Former agriculture minister Deputy Mohammad Al Alawneh has told a seminar on Ghor farming that Jordanian farmers will lose JD 13 million this season and that 277,000 tons of tomatoes will be destroyed. He said Jordan imports JD 8 million worth of pesticides annually and Jordanian farmers are suffering from mounting debts, an increase in production costs and unfair competition.

Deputy Alawneh added that dependence on imported seeds has driven prices to unprecedented ceilings, with one kilogram of tomato seeds selling for JD 12,000. Other speakers at the seminar criticized past agricultural policies, which they said had disrupted traditional farming and created new problems for farmers.

Exports to Arab countries plummet

Jordan's exports to the so-called Arab Common Market countries dropped from JD 146.9 million in 1990 to JD 81.7 million in 1991. *Ad Dustour* newspaper reported this week. It said imports from these countries also fell by JD 66 million from JD 306.4 million in 1990 to JD 239.9 million in 1991. The trade deficit with these countries, which include Egypt, Iraq and Syria, reached JD 157.7 million last year, compared with JD 159.5 million.

Jordan's exports to other Arab countries in 1991 was JD 90.5 million, compared to JD 99 million worth of imports from these countries.

Jordan's exports to all Arab countries reached JD 172.2 last year, while its imports were worth JD 338.6 million.

Jordan's exports to some of these countries in 1991 were as follows:

Lebanon JD 10 million, Saudi Arabia JD 11 million, Kuwait JD 99,000, Bahrain JD 11.6 million,

Qatar JD 10.4 million, UAE JD 26 million.

Mivan wins Aqsa contract

The Aqsa and Dome of the Rock Mosques Restoration Committee has announced that a Northern Ireland company, Mivan Overseas, has been awarded a JD 4.8 million contract to carry out restoration work on the Dome of the Rock. Work on the project should begin in mid July. Other companies prequalified were MPC International and TR Freeman, both from the United Kingdom and Piolet and Isotec from France.

Meanwhile, Saudi Arabia was still issuing press releases about its historic role in protecting Muslim shrines and its determination to sponsor restoration work on Jerusalem mosques.

Ad Dustour newspaper reported that a popular committee to restore Al Aqsa Mosque has estimated that renovation and restoration work on all Islamic shrines in Jerusalem would cost \$30 million, according to a 1990 study. A spokesman for the committee said a donation campaign will begin work next month.

Arafat returning to Amman, Al Quds says

Palestinian sources told Al Quds newspaper that Palestinian President Yasser Arafat will be coming back to Amman early in July. Peace talks are expected to resume in Rome on 21 July, the newspaper reported. Meanwhile, Jordanian-Palestinian negotiations are expected to continue before the next round of peace talks. They will concentrate on a number of areas of cooperation during the interim arrangements in the occupied areas. The new Israeli government will be formed under the premiership of Labor Party leader Yitzhak Shamir before mid-July. Mr Rabin said autonomy for the Palestinians could be achieved in six to 12 months. Palestinians are seeking Jordan's help in the disengagement process. Jordan will help Palestinians take over such matters as issuing birth and death certificates, in addition to controlling education and health facilities.

Mr Arafat told a French radio station last week that Israel's autonomy plan will not achieve peace if Israeli troops do not withdraw from all occupied Arab territories, including Jerusalem. An Israeli newspaper, *Hadashot*, reported that Rabin may be willing to put the issue of the future of the occupied areas to a national referendum.

In a related development, the General Secretary of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), Mr Nafiz Hawatmeh, rejected Rabin's autonomy plan on the grounds that it was not tied to the Palestinians' right

Scrapbook

Mid summer's dream

MY EBULLIENT friend was evidently frantic. Rabin had won the Israeli elections. I was hysterical. "Really, you're pulling my leg," I said, and begged him not to torment me any longer. But he was confident and assured me that at last our hopes were rekindled and that the dreams we had cherished together would soon come true.

Next morning I bought all the local papers I could get my hands on. People were walking in disbelief, but their faces betrayed the emotions of happiness and optimism. No longer will we mask our true feelings. Peace is around the corner, waiting to be plucked.

As I waited for the bus to come, I could not help myself. I climbed over the garbage canister and delivered a stormy and simmering speech to my fellow citizens, who looked on bemused. I nearly missed the bus because I was the last to board. But in the eyes of weary passengers I could see a new glimmer of hope, and eerie smiles drawn on their faces. They were assured, and so was I.

Editorialists, columnists and analysts in all fields were celebrating this historic event. Even sports writers attempted to link Denmark's victory over Germany to the events in Israel via Yugoslavia and Somalia. I did not miss a line in the papers. I read the obituaries, the precious metals prices and even the price of local produce, with a special emphasis on tomatoes and green peppers, trying to make sense of the world. When I could not, I made a dog's breakfast out of my newspapers, but what a small price to pay for wisdom. I remembered my grandfather, the sage, the chieftain of the tribe, the judge, the jury and yes, the executioner. I needed his wisdom now. But alas, he had emigrated to America three decades ago and was running a successful trade across the US-Mexican border.

I put my wife in a frenzy with my continuous nagging. "Peek up woman," I declared. "We're going home." That evening I let my jaw fall freely as I watched the television news. Drying my saliva, I alternated between the news in Arabic and the news in gibberish. I missed the news in French because I was making myself a *mortadella* sandwich.

Then I dozed off while watching "Encounter", only to be woken up by my wife. She had prepared the suitcases. "What for, woman?" I asked, as I gazed at her aughty little eyes. "To go back to our home," she quipped irritably. "What on earth are you talking about?" I shouted. "Rabin had won, you were intoxicated with happiness," she replied. It was a dream...no it was a nightmare, I told myself — and dozed off again. ■ Ahmad Madi

to self-determination. Speaking in Amman last week, Mr Hawatmeh said the Intifada had dealt a political defeat to the Likud Party and its policies. He added that a confederation between Jordan and the future Palestinian state must come out of a democratic choice by the people of the two countries.

Meanwhile, Jerusalem Arab lawyers called on Arafat to put an

end to differences between Fatah and the Hawatmeh faction of the DFLP, which broke out in the occupied territories after the assassination of a Fatah functionary, allegedly by DFLP supporters.

Money Matters

Average exchange rates in
Jils

Tuesday 23/6/1992

Buy	Sell
US\$ 671.0	673.00
£ 1277.3	1283.7
DM 439.6	441.8
SFR 488.8	491.2
FRF 130.7	131.4
YEN 334.6	337.3
(100)	
DFL 389.9	391.8
SKR 121.6	122.2
LIT 58.0	58.3
(100)	
BLF 212.0	213.1
(10)	

Gold & Silver

Gold	JD
1kg	7.750
21 ct	6.550
18 ct	5.600
Eng. pound	
8g	8.150
Rashad:	
5g	54.550
24ct(swiss)	47.850
Silver (1kg)	145.00

Deposit Rates

Euro-deposit rates:

	US	DEM	STG	Yen	SFR
1 mo.	3.7/8	9.3/4	10.1/4	4.5/8	9.3/16
2 mo.	3.15/16	9.13/16	10.1/4	4.1/2	9.3/16
3 mo.	3.15/16	9.13/16	10.1/4	4.7/16	9.3/16
6 mo.	4.1/16	9.3/4	10.3/16	4.5/16	9.1/16
year	4.3/8	9.3/4	10.3/16	4.5/16	8.13/16

Interbank rates (Jordan):

Saving accounts 5.75%. Call accounts 5.75%; 1 week 6%, 1 month 7%, 2 months 7.25%, 3 months 7.50%, 1 year 8%. Lending rate (AAA) 12%.

Dollar:

DMK SFR STG YEN CAN FRF
LAST 1.3230/40 1.3740/52 1.92535 125.30/50 1.1970/75 5.1210/40
Source: Amman Bank for Investment, Tel: 642701

42 years later UNRWA aims to upgrade its 'works' element

By Pam Dougherty
Special to The Star

SOME 42 years after its establishment as an emergency organization to help Palestinian refugees, the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) is aiming to upgrade the "works" element in its name.

At present 60 per cent of its budget goes towards education, 20 per cent towards health and 10 per cent towards relief, leaving little for the job creation activity that has always been part of its remit.

UNRWA has already launched an income generation program with over \$1 million in low-interest loans disbursed in Gaza, the West Bank and Jordan and programs to encourage self-reliance, and small scale socio-economic development among Palestine refugees will be a priority in the coming year.

The move from an emphasis on relief to a more works oriented approach was supported by a working group which examined socio-economic issues during the UNRWA annual donors meeting which was held in Amman from 22 to 26 June.

Important institutional and personal development work is already underway in the Agency's 65 women's program centers in its five fields of operation, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, the West Bank and Gaza.

The new Women's Community Bank set up in Qabr Essit refugee camp, about 15 kilometers from Damascus, combines imagination and practicality.

The bank's funds come from a profit of LS 23,000 made when a group of women sold handicrafts they had made during a training course in the camp's Women's Program Center. They used half of the money to buy a new knitting machine for the center, while the other half was loaned to five participants in the course, enabling them to buy their own sewing machines so that they will be able to work from home.

Angela Williams, UNRWA Director of Relief and Social Services, has now undertaken to match any funds raised in other UNRWA Women's Program Centers for use in similar community banking initiatives.

Short-term relief activity will of course also retain its place in the agency's work, especially as political, economic and even weather conditions have combined to make life for the Palestine refugees in all countries in the region increasingly difficult.

Recent examples of emergency action include a one-time distribution of flour to 120,000 refugee and non-refugee families in Gaza after the Israeli authorities had prevented Palestinian workers from going to their jobs in Israel, leaving them totally without income to buy even basic food needs. A very different emergency situation occurred in Jordan during last winter when heavy rains damaged 19 shelters in Shuf camp. UNRWA quickly stepped in to distribute kitchen kits to all families and small cash grants to 15 of them to help replace furniture and make minor repairs. UNRWA is also preparing itself

for what could be the most important shift in its activities since it began providing basic shelter, food and medical care for the first refugees who fled from Palestine 44 years ago.

UNRWA Commissioner General Ilter Turkmen gave participants a glimpse of a new world when he told the donor's meeting that "If, as we all hope, the peace process leads to a transitional period, UNRWA's role will be to cooperate with Palestinian groups in the planning of programs and to begin to hand over to the emerging Palestinian institutions, the programs and facilities through which UNRWA has delivered its services for the past 42 years."



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3. Processing coupons are accepted without empty container.
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By Kate Daniels
Star Staff Writer

Tourism in the Holy Land '..an atmosphere of irreverence and oppression...'

TOURISM IN Israel is a booming affair, with pre-Oulf War receipts totalling \$1.3 billion per year, a sum equivalent to one-third of Jordan's Gross National Product. On account of Israel's historical and religious significance to the West, and its constant turnover of pilgrims and foreign kibbutz workers, the success of its tourist industry may seem to be indomitable.

But who are the ultimate beneficiaries of this trade? One can be certain it's not the Arabs — be they in Israel proper or the Occupied Territories. For, despite the economic advantages that may be gleaned from such an industry, the Arabs have had plenty of sacrifices to make. Obvious sacrifices have been their land and its resources, their monuments and the

sacredness of their places of worship, and very often the sacrifice of their dignity.

It is fair to say that Arab hotel and hostel proprietors enjoy a healthy turnover of guests, particularly during the peak summer season. However, compared to the big fish staying in the Sheratons, Hiltons and Meridians of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv, their clientele are small fry — usually

down-at-heel backpackers and former kibbutz workers.

The more up-market Arab hotels have particularly suffered. On a visit to Jerusalem three years ago, when the *Intifada* was still active and under the watchful eye of the world media, Arab hotel owner Mr Fayek Nashashibi complained to me of desperately depleted guest numbers.

"It's a deliberate propaganda

campaign by the Israeli government," he said, lamenting the fact that pilgrim group bookings at his three star hotel, particularly from the United States, had all but disappeared. This, he argued, was as a result of Israeli warnings to prospective tourists to pack a precautionary gasmask and a pair of tennis shoes — presumably for a "quick getaway" in the event of Palestinian stone throwing!

Cynics may dismiss Nashashibi's claims of a misinformation campaign as exaggerated, yet the politically sensitive tourist in Israel may notice a number of irregularities that in fact give some weight to his argument.

Many idiosyncrasies appear within the literature distributed by the Israeli Ministry of Tourism — in fact, a complementary service providing a selection of useful maps and information booklets. However, close examination of these so-called facts and figures reveals some bewildering inconsistencies. For example, some 47 "Jewish" sites of interest are listed on the back of the map of Jerusalem, poorly supplemented by only five "Muslim" sites. For a city that boasts a beautiful array of mosques and Islamic architecture, this figure seems somewhat absurd.

Perhaps more misleading is the advice given to tourists in the "This Week in Israel" booklet, which reads: "Opening hours in the Old City are between 9:00 am and 12:00 pm and shops are sometimes closed without reason..." (this information is a veiled reference to the restricted opening hours and strikes organized by Arab shop owners as gestures of support for the *Intifada*), and continues: "While the Old City may not be considered dangerous, it is advisable only to visit with a tour guide or when accompanied."

Such "advice" smacks merely of racism, as did the comment made to me by a well-meaning English boy that "the Old City may be full of Arabs, but it's perfectly safe."

Such ignorance may shock the outsider — but in fact it reigns supreme among Israel's younger visitors. Many are content to believe that from having "made the desert bloom" for a month or so on Israel's many kibbutzim or moshavim, they have mastered the intricacies of the Arab-Israeli problem.

Emotionally pumelled by Zionist indoctrination, naive kibbutzniks seem well versed in the tragedies of the Jewish people but spare little thought for the plight of the Palestinians. Such myopia is remarkable, especially when one realizes that discrepancies between Arab and Jewish living standards are much closer than Gaza and Nablus.

Simply take a look at Jerusalem's Old City — the Arab quarters remain dark, overcrowded and dirty, while the summer heat leaves alleyways smelling, and festering with children playing amidst vegetable peel. The Jewish quarter however, lies snug and sanitized in its own little world, with (Arab) street sweepers attending to its sunbleached pavements. Fresh water runs through central guttering, while strategically positioned lamps and trees give a charming 'boulevard' effect.

Such inequity should be visible to any tourist with a conscience, as should the injustice of seeing Muslims harassed by Israeli soldiers on their way to perform Eid prayers. Discomfort should also be felt at the military presence around Bethlehem's Manger Square, where the army spies on pilgrims from the rooftops, and at the sight of traumatized Arab children, shooting tourists "dead" with plastic guns bought with their Eid money.

For a tourist with a conscience, even the well-lit, little from the wealth of Israel's treasures — for beauty cannot be found amid an atmosphere of irreverence and oppression.

By Ulf Nilsson
Special to The Star

Somalia's Hell on Earth

'..Mogadishu is easily 10 Yugoslavia's, 50 Beiruts...'

FOR OVER 30 years I've covered war, violence and bloodshed — Hungary, Vietnam, Beirut, Algeria, Afghanistan — but nowhere have I seen a situation as utterly inhuman as Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia.

There I became witness to some of the most gruesome scenes ever. The horrible truth is that Somalia is a land where law, order and civilization have ceased to exist.

Early in the morning on a Thursday in May, Abdul Kader Muhammad, 8 years old, was walking down a dirt road in front of the shack he calls home. He hadn't eaten breakfast and there was no longer a school for him to go to because all schools are closed and there is no longer any food in Somalia. Some fifty meters from his house he found a metallic ball and picked it up. It was the last thing he remembered.

I met Abdul Kader barely a half hour later when he was brought to the Red Cross Hospital in Keysaney near the coast in the northern part of the city. When the rags that covered the boy's body were removed he sat up and looked down at his feet. His left foot looked somewhat



Fleeing from nowhere to nowhere

like a flower, while blood ran down a cement gutter in the courtyard where medical orderlies washed his wounds. He was the first casualty of the day. It was still only eight o'clock. Before ten o'clock, we had counted almost a dozen more.

● All Issa Yusuf, 28 — shot in the eye. He had no idea who shot him or why.
● Muhammad Turyave, 19 — had been caught in the middle of a shootout between two gangs of thieves. Shot in the leg.

● Omar Hilowle, 13 — brought in with legs like ground beef filled with metal filings. Both feet were gone along with most of his lower legs. He was in such a stage of shock that he kept trying to get up and walk away. Both legs were amputated.

● Osman Abdi Siad, age unknown — shot in the back.
● Mowlid Musse Mylad, age unknown — shot in the head, dead on arrival.

● Hilowle Mu Mo'lain, perhaps 40 — brutally thrown from the back of a passing pickup truck, his head bleeding profusely. His black beard was full of something that at first resembled oatmeal, but later turned out to be a good part of his brain. He died on the operating table.

All this before ten o'clock. The rest of the day followed the same pattern. When the sun finally set, we had counted 38 bullet and shrapnel casualties. The Red Cross personnel said it was an average, ordinary day.

According to UN experts in the region, half a million people will probably die in the next few months, an estimate some think is far too low. Hardest hit is the capital of Mogadishu, with a population of a million and over 500,000 refugees, all without food, water, shelter, or medicine.

The obvious questions are: What's happening here and why? Somalia, always a poor country subsisting on camels and goats, was colonized partially by Eng-

nourished, and terrified. Sanitary conditions are abysmal — never have I seen so much filth and sickness; so much diarrhea and despair — Mogadishu is easily 10 Yugoslavias, 50 Beiruts...

Somalia has fallen off the world map. Mogadishu, once a beautiful city, has practically ceased to exist. Aside from a few shanties built from rubble in the city's ruins, everything has been destroyed by the civil war's ceaseless barrage of tanks, mortar fire, cannons and machine guns. Now there is nothing left to shoot at. It is a city that has ceased functioning. Total anarchy.

We drive into town and discover to our amazement and horror, that everyone is armed. Women hide in the ruins while all men from the age of 12 and up walk around aimlessly, armed with everything from M 16s to AK 47s — all guerrilla soldiers' favorites, all capable of blowing

holes the size of sirloin steaks through our bullet-proof vests. Practically everyone is at war with everyone else. And everyone is starving.

A Red Cross doctor remarks ironically that as soon as they distribute rice the violence increases. Someone who hasn't eaten in days won't hesitate to kill for a handful of rice.

"In other words," he adds, "We increase our work load every time we try to do something about starvation."

Two million Somalis out of a total population of seven million are refugees, fleeing from nowhere to nowhere and thousands are dying daily, hourly. Unemployment runs at 99 per cent — a handful of kiosks are open selling fruit, vegetables and ammunition.

Everywhere there are young men, looking like extras from a Mad Max film gone wrong. Dressed in wigs and tie-dye T-shirts, they play portable stereos or Walkmans (or even both at the same time) and dance to heavy metal music, keeping the beat with the butts of their Kalashnikov rifles. Terrorism and counter-terrorism to the rock tempo of an MTV video...

Things are worst around four of five in the afternoon when the heat is at its most stifling and the humidity at its most nauseating. It is at about this time that the plane from Nairobi, a twin engine Beechcraft, has sold the last of its *qat*, a popular narcotic leaf. Most young men chew *qat* regularly. Almost everyone is noticeably stoned — stoned and armed. Even our bodyguards are high as kites, overconfident and cocky. I'm frightened of them. Apparently, accidental shootings are as common as armed robberies.

The obvious questions are: What's happening here and why? Somalia, always a poor country subsisting on camels and goats, was colonized partially by Eng-

land and partially by Italy. From 1960 to 1969, it had a primitive democratic government plagued by feuding clans and tribal vendettas. In 1969, General Siad Barre seized power and brought with him an era of repression and blood feuds, pitting rival clans against each other. He soon started a long bloody war against Ethiopia, getting military aid first from the Soviet Union, then the US. When the Soviet Union collapsed and the Cold War came to an end, the US withdrew its support and even advised against UN assistance to Somalia. Civil war broke out. In 1991, Barre was forced into exile. Heavy fighting, divided Mogadishu into northern and southern halves — each controlled by allied clan leaders, none powerful enough to seize power, all intent on fighting to the death.

On the dirty floor of a blown-out house in northern Mogadishu sits Fatima Osman, a refugee of about 35 with three small children. In her life, she's given birth to eleven children. Eight have died or disappeared, her husband has been missing for weeks.

"We have only eaten once in the last few days," she tells our interpreter. "We neither have the strength nor the courage to go out. We've been here for a few months now. It's here we'll stay and it's here we'll die."

She came from a region 250 kilometers out in the countryside, ravaged by drought and fighting, even worse than in the capital. Now she sits in the ruins of what

was once a neighborhood along with 5000 others. Hundreds of children are screaming, trying to keep the flies away. Every day and every night several of them die of malnutrition, TB and various fevers.

There is a UN presence in Somalia, but, because of the United States' reluctance to offer aid, their role is limited. The only organization supplying relief on any significant scale is the Red Cross. In addition to running the hospital in Keysaney and several medical stations, they distribute food — at great personal risk. The Red Cross has chartered two boats to bring in supplies: One off the coast of "Moga North", the other off the coast of "Moga South." The clan leaders will not allow anything to enter the city's harbor, so the boats have to be unloaded, with great difficulty, on the beach — equal amounts for each part of the divided capital. Spies check that both sides receive equal proportions. Armed bandits sometimes hijack trucks or even entire convoys, coming

from the beach. To be able to function at all, Red Cross personnel are forced to hire, lodge and feed one "battalion" of "gunmen" in the north and one in the south. (Only if you are protected by stoned, half crazed boys armed to the teeth are you allowed to help). One Red Cross worker has been killed, the entire personnel can be said to be in more or less constant danger. Shooting goes on 24 hours a day; doctors and nurses work around the clock with war casualties. They have neither time nor resources to do anything about the tens of thousands of others that are dying of starvation and disease.

"Now that there's no strategic advantage to be won, the rich western world no longer gives a shit if Africa lives or dies," said one Red Cross worker who requested not to be named for fear of being fired.

Somalia is truly a land the world forgot. If there is a hell on earth, this is it. ■



Abdul Kader: His left foot looked like some kind of a flower

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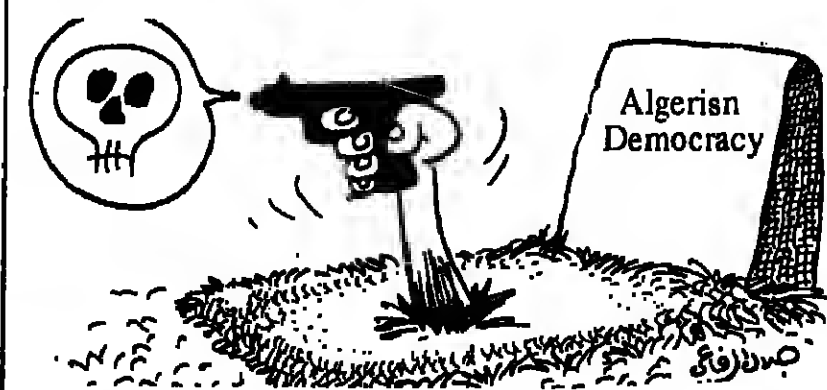
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Jalal Rifa'Ad-Dustour

Our Say...

Reconciliation in Algeria

THE TRAGIC murder of Algerian President Mohammad Boudiaf on Monday is a painful reminder that Algerians are still held hostage to a political labyrinth from which there is no escape. Mr Boudiaf, a hero of Algeria's War of Independence and a man who had spent most of his life in exile, was invited to power early this year by a military junta, which toppled President Chadli Bendjedid and circumvented Algeria's democratization process.

Mr Boudiaf was seen by most Algerians as a usurper of power, a man who had robbed the Algerian people of their choice of future leaders, which they made in Algeria's first free elections since independence. The fact that the Islamic Salvation Front (FIS) had swept the elections and defeated the candidates of the National Liberation Front (NLF), which had ruled the country under a single-party authoritarian system for more than three decades, provided the junta with the excuse to take over the country and prevent the Islamists from turning Algeria into an Islamic republic.

The West made no secret of its relief at the military takeover, even though it stifled Algeria's hard-earned democracy. The specter of an Islamic republic on the southern shores of the Mediterranean was eclipsed — at least for the time being.

There are those who believe Mr Boudiaf accepted the invitation of the military, with good intentions at heart. He promised to end state corruption, revitalize the economy and create jobs and provide housing for Algeria's dispossessed. But he refused to deal with the FIS or even engage in a dialogue with them. He jailed their leaders and thousands of their supporters, and finally collided with his old foes in the NLF. His only protection was a clique of well-entrenched military officers, through which he ran the country with an iron fist.

Whether it was the Islamists or the NLF who carried out the assassination of Mr Boudiaf this week is not important. The death of Mr Boudiaf will not end Algeria's political turmoil, but may well exacerbate it. The military are still in power and there is little hope that Mr Boudiaf's successor will opt to reconcile or initiate a national dialogue with the representatives of the Algerian people. The new leader will have to overcome the same dilemma which finally destroyed Mr Boudiaf: a lack of legitimacy before his own people.

The military can go on ruling Algeria by force, but the tragic end of Boudiaf will act as a reminder of the consequences of this option. Alternatively, they can start a dialogue with the Islamists and other political forces to lead the country out of its current crisis and give the people the renewed hope of a national reconciliation.

It is a pity that a man who had spent his youth fighting to liberate his country from the yoke of foreign colonization ended his life as an instrument in the hands of ambitious military officers. Mr Boudiaf could have returned from exile to fight for his ideals within a democratic system, but he chose to rule with a mandate from the military rather than from the Algerian masses.

This is the time for the five-man High State Committee to study the lessons of Mr Boudiaf's death. To continue ahead with their present policies will bring the country closer to a state of civil unrest, anarchy and wanton bloodletting. The time is ripe to return the issue to the Algerian people: it is they who must decide Algeria's future.

Book review

Israel and the New World Order

By Andrew J. Hurley. Fifthian Press, 1991.

Reviewed by Pat McDonnell Twair

ANDREW HURLEY says he wrote this book, offering an easy way to implement a two-state solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict, because he wants to see the establishment of an independent Palestinian nation before he dies.

A retired attorney specializing in international law, Hurley was working for a predominantly Jewish conglomerate in 1947-48 as he watched the reaction of Jewish colleagues to the formation of Israel. "As a lawyer," he commented in an interview, "I could see Israel wasn't the fulfillment of Biblical prophecy so much as it was a clever propaganda campaign engineered to deceive and brainwash the American public."

The thesis of Hurley's book is that UN Resolution 181, enacted on 29 November 1947, called for independent Arab and Jewish states to be established within specified boundaries no later than 1 October 1948. Although the state of Israel was established 14 May 1948, Hurley points out the Zionists did everything in their power to prevent the implementation of Resolution 181 for the Palestinians.

Hurley has invested more than 20 years researching his book, using only Israeli and Jewish sources so as to preclude any dissent from Zionists. His formula for a two-state solution is simple: recognition of a Palestinian state according to Resolution 181.

"Peace is achieved, not by winning wars, but by deterring them," Hurley writes. And just as the NATO pact preserved peace in Europe, Hurley suggests that the US enter

into a mutual defense treaty with Israel. He argues that if Israel's security is insured, it would have no valid excuse to occupy the West Bank and Gaza. Once a demilitarized zone was established, a Palestinian state could be established according to resolutions 181, 242 and 338. Possible reactions to Hurley's peace formula by the Jewish community are enumerated by the author.

Asserting that "the average American thinks Palestine is a state Yasser Arafat dreamed up," Hurley offers chapters on the ancient history of the Jews and Palestinians and the Jewish diaspora. Other chapters deal with the history of the Zionist movement, the Israeli lobby in the US and the Gulf War and its aftermath.

The book lacks an index and a bibliography. Nonetheless, the author has come up with a workable plan for peace in the Middle East, one that simply calls for the implementation of UN resolutions. He wants his readers to bring a draft resolution calling for the implementation of Resolution 181 to the UN Security Council. Hurley specifies the UN as the only body that has jurisdiction over the problem of Palestine. Only the UN can modify or reverse its decisions, he argues. "Israel is a creature of the UN and the Plan of Partition," he states. "If General Assembly Resolution 181 is not valid, Israel has no legal foundation for its existence."

Hurley has provided a blueprint for implementing Resolution 181. Let's hope readers of *Israel and the New World Order* can persuade their governments to follow through via the United Nations.

Pat McDonnell Twair is a freelance journalist based in Los Angeles.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Amendments to Aqaba Scuba article

To the editor:

I would like to make the following amendments to last week's article entitled "US marketing team sees big money in Aqaba scuba diving promotion".

■ The production of "Scuba-World" in Aqaba was fully undertaken by Cathy Rothchild, Royal Jordanian and the Aquamarina Diving Center at a very high cost. The Royal Diving Center has nothing to do with this production, as mentioned in the article.

■ The facilities reported in the article were basically those of Aquamarina's Diving Center, which is the only center using boats for diving in Aqaba.

■ With regards to the advertisement in the United States, we have recommended that the Ministry of Tourism, which has received the report, allocate a budget to promote diving in Aqaba.

■ The article included many positive aspects, one of which is the service provided by Royal Jordanian. Other aspects are the tourist industry infrastructure, Jordan's positive attitude towards tourism and the superb diving opportunities available on the Red Sea.

■ Naturally we have some negative points, but certainly not the equipment, as mentioned in the article. We know we have trash on the reef, however we have organized a program with the Royal Jordanian Diving Federation which involves finding a sponsor to provide trash-bags. These will be distributed to all divers in all of Aqaba's diving centers, along with instructions to pick up trash as they do their daily dives.

■ As far as boat anchors damaging the corals is concerned, we are working on 10 buoys to be spotted in the best diving spots. This program was implemented by the technical adviser of the Royal Jordanian Diving Center, Mr. Connor Craig. These buoys will cost JD 300 — sponsored by private enterprises — whose names will be written on the buoys. This, in effect, will eliminate current deterioration of the corals.

Mr. Simon Khoury
General Manager
Aquamarina Hotels, Aqaba

THE NEW OUTER SPACE ORDER

Space comes down to earth

IN MAY 1991, when cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev blasted off from the Baikonur Cosmodrome, his rocket was marked with the flag of the Soviet Union. He and his partner, Alexander Volkov, were supposed to return from their orbiting Mir space station in five months' time.

But when October came, there was a hasty change in plans. A rocket was sent up to the space station with a replacement for Volkov, but Krikalev was left in orbit for another four months. There wasn't enough time to find a replacement for Krikalev or enough money to send up another rocket to bring him back. "He isn't exactly thrilled," said the ground-



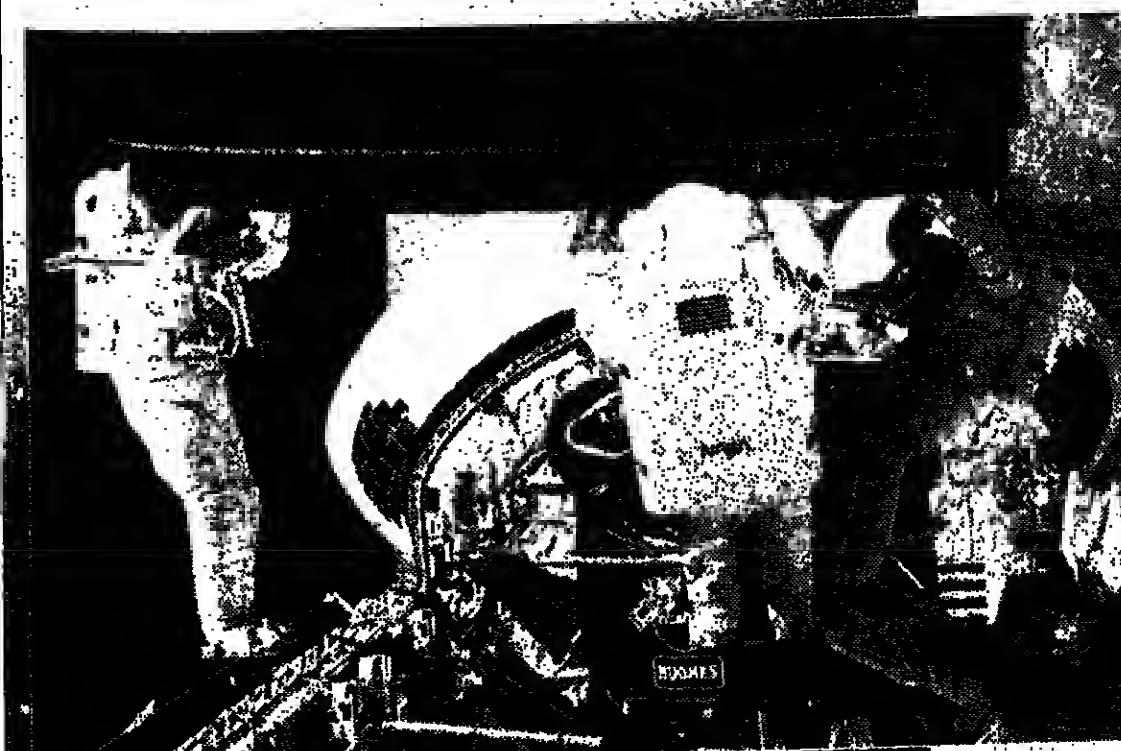
based flight psychiatrist. When Krikalev was finally brought back to Earth in March of this year, it was to a new and altogether different country than the one he had left.

The time warp experienced by the last cosmonaut to leave the Soviet Union and the first to return to the Commonwealth of Independent States is a metaphor for the transformations shaking space development worldwide.

The end of the Cold War and the bounteous military funding that went with it has caused an implosion in space research and technology not only in the former Soviet Union but also in the hitherto competitive national space programs. Recently,

three US astronauts saved a wayward communications satellite belonging to the 122-nation International Telecommunications Satellite Organization. Cooperation and commercialization are becoming the bywords of space development today — out of economic necessity as much as anything else.

This *WorldPaper* report examines just how rapidly and to what effect space development has been brought back down to earth.



Krikalev (above right) and the US astronaut: Safe on the ground and saving in space.

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Russian space retools for uncertain future

New agency shoots for stars and civilian oversight

BY ALEXANDER PUMPIANSKI
and LEONID MLECHIN
in Moscow, Russia

IN THE POST-SOVIET order of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the future of space exploration is another question mark amid the chaos of busted budgets, perestroika and clashing nationalities. Like the country to which it once belonged, the Russian space industry is trying to regroup and retool itself to meet new demands.

Russia has plans for the use of space technology and satellites to improve telecommunications, meteorology, navigation and create profitable industries. Yet today the Russian space program is on the verge of complete financial collapse. With spending slashed to 65 percent of budget levels five years ago, half of all space program production facilities are idle. According to some estimates, one in four space industry specialists has already found other work.

At the same time, a number of important scientific and production facilities are situated on the territory of what are now independent republics. The two main launch sites are Plesetsk, in Russia, and Baikonur, previously under control of Soviet military space units but now the property of independent Kazakhstan. Even though agreements have been reached between Russia and Kazakhstan on joint use of facilities, there are still many unresolved issues. Kazakhstan would like to find a profitable use for Baikonur and it is unclear if this will conflict with plans with Russia.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin has said that Russia can make do with just the Plesetsk site, but in practice this is impossible. Key satellite communications systems are located in Baikonur and so are important manned flight facilities.

But the vast majority of the space infrastructure, about 80 percent, remains in Russia. Current plans call for all space programs to be turned over to the authority of the civilian-dominated Russian Space Agency (RSA). Although the RSA initially will share its authority with the military, the goal is to transfer more facilities, and research and development, from military to civilian control. That may prove to be a difficult task.

The military still plays a strong role in space technology and its uses. Currently, the military controls most of the

Alexander Pumpianski, *WorldPaper* associate editor for Russia, and Leonid Mlechin are, respectively, editor and deputy editor of the Moscow weekly *Novoe Vremia*.

budget and nearly all space-related infrastructure. While Russian civilian space technology lags far behind the US, military space technology is more competitive—and still a source of concern for the US.

Last May, the US imposed a two-year ban on exports to a Russian arms agency and the Indian Space Research Organization because of an agreement between them to transfer Russian rocket technology. The US State Department objected to the sale as a violation of an international treaty banning the transfer of sensitive missile technology. The agreement was important to the Russian government for several reasons: to earn hard currency, to retain control over the Indian market, and to prove that Russian technology is still worthy.

It wasn't so long ago when financial considerations were not a concern for the space industry. Only results mattered, results that could be demonstrated to the world, such as the launching of another manned flight, a space walk, or a record stay at the orbital station.

But what happened to Russian cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev tells the story of what has happened to the once-mighty Soviet space program in an era of reduced budgets and political change. Krikalev blasted off from the Soviet Union on May 18, 1991. He had been launched into space at a time when the still-intact Soviet Union lavished money on the space program. But while he stayed aloft in the orbiting Mir space station, things began to change on the ground. The Soviet Union became the CIS, and Russia took control of the space budget.

Rumors began to spread around Moscow that the country did not have enough money to land Krikalev and his flight partner (who joined the mission after Krikalev had been in orbit for five months), and that they would have to orbit until the economy improved. Cost-saving measures were implemented and communication with the station was cut by several hours a day. The space station was supposed to have more crew members, but with just two, the cosmonauts were kept busy making repairs rather than conducting research. Krikalev eventually returned on March 25, 1992, to a changed country.

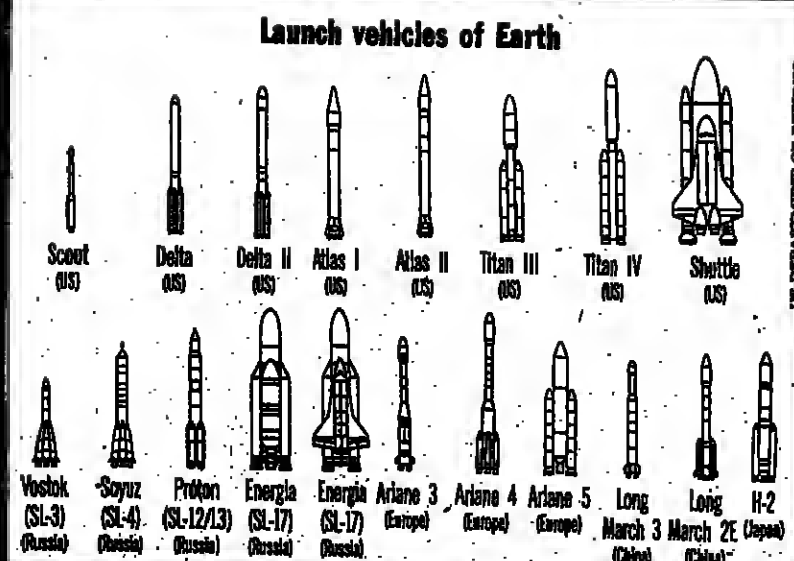
Recent articles in the press have tarnished the once-bright image of Soviet space science with stories of malfeasance, misfeasance and nonfeasance. There have been some notable failures. One of the most famous is the story of the Buran, the Soviet space agency's version of the US space shuttle. The

Buran bears an uncanny resemblance to its US cousin, but this is due to the demands of aerodynamics rather than an impressive achievement of Soviet intelligence. There is, however, one major difference between the two spacecraft: the US shuttle flies while the Buran goes nowhere. Years late and billions of rubles over budget, the Buran made one unmanned test flight and has been grounded ever since.

Under the influence of the US Apollo program, the Soviet mission to put a man on the moon began before Soviet science could catch up to the goal. After wasting billions of rubles, the project was eventually canceled. Half-finished lunar spacecraft now sit abandoned in unused production sites.

Despite these failures, there are some promising developments on the horizon for the Russian space program. Russia still has the world's only heavy-lift launch vehicle, the Energia, and the government is actively pursuing the sale of Soviet space hardware to raise money for new programs. At the same time, the Mir space station is still the world's only orbiting, permanently manned space station.

No matter what happens, decades of accomplishment of the space program will not be lost in the current political melee. But one additional lesson that cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev and his comrades learned in space was that no matter how high you fly, you cannot escape the reality on the ground.



Engineers of the world, unite!

BY EDWARD CRAWLEY
in Cambridge, USA

NATIONAL SPACE programs will always be used to support foreign policy goals, but cooperation in space can build confidence on Earth. Cooperation between the US and Russian (formerly Soviet) space programs that was unthinkable a decade ago now is being seriously considered by both sides.

Russia and the US no longer see each other as enemies and are beginning to identify common goals in space exploration where their ambitions and capabilities are mutually supportive.

Moscow's past achievements include launching the first artificial satellite, putting the first man in space, and accumulating many man-years of operational experience in the course of more than 200 successful launches (twice the rest of the world's launches combined). The Russian space program's present capabilities include 10 operational launch vehicles (including Energia, currently the world's only heavy-lift launch vehicle), in-space nuclear reactor power systems, the permanently manned Mir space station, and the proven ability to launch on demand. Russian strengths lie in the areas of space life sciences, in-orbit operations, nuclear power systems, launch vehicles and propulsion systems.

US accomplishments and capabilities include the first heavy-lift launch vehicle, the first manned landing on the moon, extensive exploration of the solar system (such as the mapping of Venus by the probe Magellan and the tour of the outer planets by Voyager), the space shuttle program, and the Deep Space Network, a network of antennas used to communicate with probes sent to the planets and beyond. US strengths lie in computers, instrumentation and controls, communications, advanced materials, and remotely and autonomously operated systems.

For years, the true capabilities of both countries have been downplayed and misrepresented by the other side for political purposes. The Soviets' obsession with secrecy and the unwillingness of the US to accept that its technology isn't always preeminent led to misperceptions and suspicion of each other's capabilities.

One approach to overcoming problems and mutual suspicions would be to engage in different stages of cooperation, gradually building to truly joint efforts. Coordinated efforts would come first, which would be functionally independent missions that coordinate research and data for a common goal. For example, when Halley's comet made its most recent pass through our solar system, Soviet, European and Japanese scientific satellites were launched, the US tracked them, and scientific findings were shared.

Cooperative efforts would come next.

Edward Crawley is director of the Space Engineering Research Center and a professor of aeronautics and astronautics at MIT.

meaning efforts that require each country to build its own machine or unit and later join their efforts, such as the international space station Freedom, which will feature European, Japanese and US laboratory pods, all functioning on one platform.

Joint efforts would be the final level of cooperation where both nation's space agencies work in tandem to build or launch a single project. For example, European nations are pooling their resources to build their section of the space station Freedom.

Russia, shorn of its superpower status, is willing to open its curtain of secrecy in the interest of trade and cooperation. Russian authorities are actively seeking US cooperation in many areas of science and industry, including sensitive computer and nuclear projects. In the US, public and governmental debate has increasingly focused on the future of the US space program and its management. Recently, White House pressure for change forced the dismissal of the chief administrator for the National Aerospace and Science Agency (NASA) and the appointment of a new leader dedicated to innovation and change.

One area of possible cooperation is commercial satellite launch services, in which there is a world market but no unique Russian capability. Another opportunity is for the US to use Russia's heavy-lift launch vehicle, Energia, which could be useful for Mars and manned missions. The West could use the Mir space station for low-gravity scientific experiments and Russian ground-test facilities that are unmatched in the West, such as hypersonic and high-heating-rate wind tunnels. Unlike as it seems, the US might acquire large rocket systems from the Russians, like the reliable Zenit booster as a high-performance replacement for the US Shuttle Solid Rocket Booster.

Currently, there are plans for US astronauts to fly on the Mir space station and for Russian cosmonauts to fly on the US space shuttle. In the present political and economic environment in both countries, it is becoming increasingly difficult to justify two costly and uncoordinated national programs for manned exploration of the solar system.

Nonetheless, the Cold War iceberg is not going to melt overnight. Economic, military and political concerns are still significant and psychological barriers are rooted deep in history and consciousness. The obstacles in the West mainly arise from the perceived high risk of doing business within the republics of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) due to political and economic instability. Initial contacts with the post-Soviet bureaucracy have not always been encouraging.

Significant barriers on both sides will have to be overcome. Current US trade restrictions tightly control the US-CIS

intergovernmental discussion of space efforts. Current US policy, for instance, prohibits the launch of any US-made spacecraft on a post-Soviet launch vehicle. If Washington policymakers are not supportive of cooperation with the CIS, very few private aerospace firms will venture into cooperative commercial agreements.

In Russia and other CIS republics, the obstacles are also numerous and significant. Bureaucracies still dominate the former Soviet space industry and their decision-making process is slow. There also seems to be a fundamental inability to understand the financial and decision-making process of US firms. Even business practices that are routine in the West, such as how to customize a product for a big customer, are unfamiliar to Russian industry.

The psychological obstacles on both sides are hard to overestimate. Some stem from pride in the tradition of leadership while others have to do with coolness toward projects which place another nation's effort on the critical path to mission success. On the US side it may also be a lack of belief in the stability of the post-Soviet reality.

Nonetheless, there are actions both governments can make to ameliorate problems. The US government must recognize that its ambiguous commercial policy on public and private cooperation with the CIS is a major impediment—some would say the major impediment—to progress. The US government should revise commercial policy to encourage US industries to actively seek out and exploit post-Soviet space technologies. The US government and the private sector should become familiar with the organization and capabilities of CIS space industries, and make every effort to overcome cultural differences. The US should actively consider using post-Soviet space services and products when they are unique or more competitive than US products and also consider joint marketing of products with the CIS.

Moscow and other post-Soviet governments and space industries should familiarize themselves in depth with the organization and capabilities of the US space industry and business practices and make every effort to overcome cultural differences as well. The CIS must develop a more realistic and comprehensive approach to marketing their space industry by providing a guide to the organization, capabilities and points of contact in the various sectors of their space industry. Forums could be organized to bring together US and CIS space industry leaders to discuss goals and markets.

Despite all efforts, however, the necessary transition from "leadership" to "partnership" will not happen overnight. There is a long history of accomplishment on both sides of the divide, but hopefully problems can be solved and trust can be built to begin a new age of space cooperation.

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Space prophet sees the future from a keyboard

Sci-fi author finds new worlds to conquer

BY HAROLD PIERIS in Colombo, Sri Lanka

ARTHUR C. CLARKE, the legendary science fiction writer and space prophet, is gardening on Mars.

Using a computer program that produces enhanced images of Mars as mapped by the US interplanetary probe Viking, Clarke sits in his home on the earthly island of Sri Lanka, colonizing and farming on Mt. Olympus, which at a height of 90,000 feet is the largest known volcano in the solar system. Clarke transforms the planet's surface with forests, oceans—and condominiums.

"Mars is the next frontier," says Clarke. "It will be what the Wild West was—what America was 500 years ago. Mars is where the action is going to be in the next thousand years."

Harold Pieris, former editor of Sri Lanka's *The Daily Observer*, is a Colombo-based writer.

The 74-year-old author of *2001: A Space Odyssey* acknowledges that there is a debate over going to Mars or back to the moon. The moon is closer and there will be missions to accomplish there, but Clarke doubts these will be large-scale operations. "But Mars—there's no doubt about it because Mars is a relatively benign environment. It has everything you need." Clarke's work remaking the face of Mars on his computer will result in a book due out later this year (probably his 77th) entitled, *The Snows of Mt. Olympus: A Garden on Mars*.

This month, Clarke launches another book, *How the World Was Won: Beyond the Global Village*, which charts the history of telecommunications. It was, after all, Clarke who, in an article in the October 1945 issue of the magazine *The Wireless World*, first conceived how communications satellites fixed 14,000 miles above Earth could instantly connect every point on the globe. The book sums up the history of telecommunications, ending with the Cable News Network's live broadcasts.

In one chapter, Clarke describes a

day's makers of communications satellites as busily rebuilding the tower of Babel 23,000 miles above the equator. He quotes from the book of Genesis in the Bible: "And the Lord said, 'Behold, they are one people, and they have all one language; and this is only the beginning of what they will do; and nothing that they propose to do will now be impossible for them.'"

"On that first occasion, those words were a warning of disaster," says Clarke. "Today, they should be a message of hope, a description of the future that lies within our grasp."

Clarke has always believed in the immense educational potential of space technology. Global telecommunication networks and video conferencing technology, Clarke believes, will make possible "invisible colleges" linking professors and students in different parts of the world. Long-distance education, of course, is nothing new. It started in the Australian outback about 50 years ago when children whose nearest neighbors were a hundred miles away were linked to their teachers by radio. The system is still operating—updated with satellites and computers.

Clarke does not, however, believe these "universities of the air" should permanently replace face-to-face teaching. Chemistry, physics, and engineering cannot be taught without hands-on laboratory experience; electronics can never completely convey all the nuances of personal interactions, "nor would it attempt to do so," he says. "But any teacher who can be replaced by a machine, should be. The same verdict applies to any university, however ivory-covered its walls."

Clarke says that 1991 was a difficult year for him, involving several medical problems and the race to finish his longest book, *How the World Was Won*. But his health has improved and the septuagenarian has been scuba diving—the latest dive to a depth of 100 feet to inspect a wreck off the coast of Colombo.

The author celebrates his birthday this month in his hometown of Minehead, in Somerset, England, even though the true date of his birth is in chilly December. But Clarke, a resident of tropical Sri Lanka since 1956, insists "in no way will I be in the UK in December." Elaborate preparations have been made to celebrate this 75th birthday (dubbed the "Clarkefest"), which coincides with this year being International Space Year. Clarke's biography will be released at the Minehead celebration as well. But there will be other important dates for him to witness. Clarke says he hopes to see 2001, "even in a wheelchair."

One small step for space junk...

Futurist Lem sees a path through orbiting garbage

Q Even though space walks are rare, it would only take a tiny, fast-moving particle of metal to puncture an astronaut's space suit. Forty years ago, did you foresee that orbiting debris from rocket launches would be a danger to space flight?

A In one of my humorous stories from the book *Star Diaries* I wrote about planets which have mastered the technology of space flight being surrounded by rings of trash or particles of electronic brains. But that was different, I had in mind the contamination of the cosmos by intellect.

About 3,600 launches into space have created an estimated 4,000 tons of space junk, from decrepit satellites to tiny metal shavings. How dangerous is this?

Big objects are not as threatening as they may seem. Stationary satellites used for communication and to relay TV transmissions are placed at a high altitude of about 36,000 kilometers. The American shuttle vehicles are placed in relatively low orbits, above the higher layer of atmosphere and stratosphere at an altitude of no less than 500 kilometers. The amount of fuel satellites carry allows them to remain in use for several years. When the fuel is exhausted, they eventually fall to Earth. When a satellite approaches the upper atmosphere, friction builds up and an object cruising at 28,000 kilometers per hour quickly disintegrates. But there are no more than 200 nonfunctioning satellites in orbit. Many more will still fit into outer space.

How can space vehicles be protected against collisions with space junk? Protection against big wrecks or large debris is easy as long as they can be tracked early enough by radar. In one of my science fiction stories, a special shield vehicle flies in front of launched spacecraft to prevent collision with space junk. In practice, this is difficult since the shield and the spacecraft's trajectory would have to be identical. But planetoids and meteors can be equally menacing. Though small in number, they too can cause great damage. But since we are already able to detect a planetoid approaching Earth, it would be possible to knock it down or blow it apart with a hydrogen bomb. But I don't think this will be possible in practice until the end of the century.

According to some estimates, the mass of space junk soon will reach 8,000 tons, the majority of which will be particles no bigger than 10 centimeters. Will this buildup of junk form a ring of debris and prevent space flights?

Not up until now, nobody has proposed bombing sea reefs rather than finding a

way to navigate around them. The same principle applies to space flight. A dangerous zone can be avoided by changing orbit. Remember that space junk orbits in a narrow belt between 160 to 600 kilometers from the surface. The chances of meeting a particle that has the strength to puncture an armored space vehicle is one in a million. When the Americans landed on the moon, they found one of their old unmanned landers, a part of which they brought back to count the number of micrometeorite impacts. There weren't many of them. I can guarantee that you can walk on the moon without a special umbrella or helmet.

Do you think something will be invented in the future to get rid of space junk?

Not unless something like a moon was introduced into the Earth's orbit, a body of such mass that by virtue of its gravitational pull it would draw material towards it. But before it could happen, this body would fall on the Earth—and this would mean the end of the world. In other words, I cannot imagine such a radical and direct solution. Perhaps powerful lasers could destroy space junk, just as the American SDI (Strategic Defense Initiative) is supposed to destroy nuclear missiles.

Isn't that an expensive solution? Nothing is cheap in astronautics.

Until recently, the world was involved in an arms race and satellite spying was at its peak. What effect is the end of the Cold War going to have on earthly matters?

Was it all 'a cosmic lie'?

WHEN THE controversial book *Gagarin: A Cosmic Lie* was published in Hungary two years ago, its small publishing house, Danubius-Kodex, didn't release the identity of author Istvan Nemere until the book's debut at a press conference. The publishers feared an eleven-hour attempt by government censors could prevent the book from being published. But it was a smart, though risky, publicity stunt: 300,000 copies sold out quickly in a country of nine million people.

And the reason for all this intrigue? Nemere's book claims that the first man in space, Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin, never actually went.

The author is well known in Hungary as a writer of several best-selling political thrillers and science fiction novels. Before becoming a writer, Nemere tried his hand at various professions: forester, paramedic, librarian, teacher, tourist guide and journalist.

In his book, Nemere presents the following scenario: in 1961, Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev's position in the government was becoming

We seem to have believed that if the Soviet Union ceased to exist, the Earth would become a paradise. This is not the case. The American airplane industry cannot be closed because it would deprive people of their jobs. In addition, the Americans are closing numerous military bases around the world. This worries the Japanese because they are a demilitarized state. Their industrial economy successes are partly due to the fact that Japan invested in industry while saving on defense. Now the Japanese face a dilemma: to buy ready-made American arms or to manufacture their own. In turn, from what used to be the Soviet Union several countries have suddenly emerged. For instance, the Ukraine is using its strategic weapons arsenal placed on its territory as blackmail in negotiations regarding the Crimea, the Black Sea Fleet, and so on. This is not funny. American political scientists now realize how reasonable the Soviet Politburo was during the Cold War.

What is the probability of nuclear weapons being used?

It is in reverse proportion to the size of the state which has them. Little Iraq would be eager to do so. Israel would use it if it considered itself to be strongly threatened from the "sea of Arabs." The probability of a nuclear confrontation grows in direct proportion to the number of nuclear states. In turn, those who own long-range rockets may use the "suitcase method"—small atomic bombs that can fit inside suitcases and be placed on an enemy's territory.

—Interviewed exclusively for The WorldPaper by Isabella Bodnar, a Krakow-based Polish journalist



Stanislaw Lem has written dozens of science fiction novels and is the most widely translated living Polish author. Born in 1921, Lem started his literary career relatively late in life in the mid-1950s after becoming a doctor. Many of his works, such as *The Star Diaries* (1976) and *Solaris* (1961), deal with the threat of global destruction or the limits and strengths of humanity. Sometimes darkly satirical, his books have been compared to the "philosophical tales" of Voltaire and Jonathan Swift. Lem is also widely known in his native Poland as a columnist on contemporary politics.

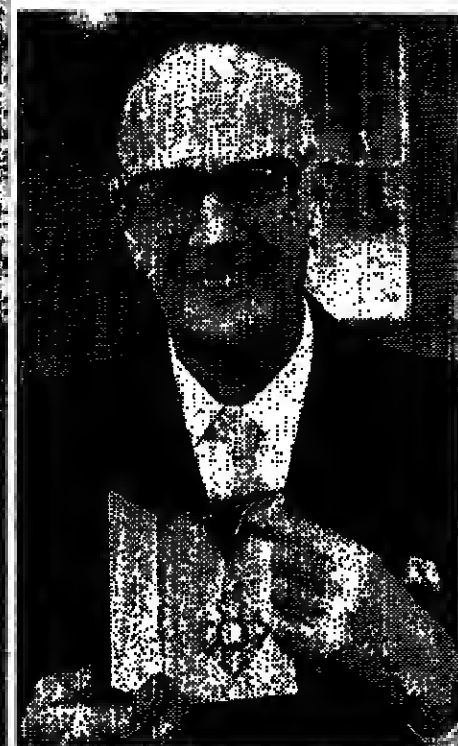
press first must be cleared by proper authorities.

Nemere points also to the fact that when Gagarin was asked at a press conference to give his impressions about space, he couldn't answer without reading from the notes in his pocket. And a liar with a bad memory becomes embarrassing over time and eventually must "disappear," which is exactly what happened, Nemere claims. Gagarin died seven years later during a mysterious "training flight."

Many have spoken out against Nemere's account. Well-known Polish science fiction writer Stanislaw Lem has called the book "garbage" and leading members of Hungarian space science, such as Hungary's only astronaut, Colonel Bartalan Farkas, have gone out of their way to dispute Nemere's account. The Hungarian press, too, has been critical of Nemere's claims and pointed out many holes in his theory.

None of this, however, prevented the author and publisher from making a healthy profit on the book.

—By Arpad Simonfalvi, a television commentator and Budapest-based writer



Arthur C. Clarke, 75, is one of the most well-known and prolific writers of science fiction and nonfiction. The British-born author attained widespread popularity through the film *2001: A Space Odyssey* (1968), for which he coauthored the screenplay based on his novel. Many of his fictional works take place in the near future, such as *A Fall of Moondust* (1961) about the rescue of a lunar tourist vehicle, and deal with the problems of rational humans confronting advanced technology, which he has called "indistinguishable from magic."

PHOTOS: NARAI AP / WIDE WORLD; P. NOTTENTHNER

SPACE DOWN TO EARTH

Private sector helps pave way to heavens

Japan's commercial and science projects launch it to number three spot

BY HIDEO UDAGAWA
in Tokyo, Japan

HAVING LAUNCHED 46 satellites into space, Japan is now number three in the field behind the US and the former Soviet Union. There are scientific and communications satellites, with the pri-

vate sector closely involved in broadcasting to the public and providing communication services to specific customers.

Some 3.8 million households subscribe to broadcasting service by the Japan Broadcasting Corporation, which has two satellite channels projected to become profitable this year with rev-

enues of US\$55 million. The private-sector Japan Satellite Broadcasting channel reached 800,000 households in March, one year after beginning service—10 percent short of target. The major corporations in building communications satellites are Toshiba and NEC.

The \$185 million Japanese Communication Satellite company, providing

service to individual customers, turned its first profit last year. It is owned by C. Itoh and Co. (40 percent), Mitsui and Co. (30 percent), and Hughes Communications (30 percent), which also is involved in building satellites.

Meanwhile, a company called Space Communications has gotten off to a rocky start. A failed launch of its Superbird-B communications satellite in 1990 was followed by the shutdown due to mechanical problems of its sole operating satellite, Superbird-A. Following an injection of more capital by the Mitsubishi group, Space Communications successfully launched its Superbird-B in February. Another emerging power in the industry is Satellite Japan, which plans to launch two satellites in 1994.

Japan's National Space Development Agency (NASDA) has big plans for non-commercial space exploration, including a spaceplane, orbiting laboratories as part of an international space station, and manned missions to the moon. NASDA works in close collaboration with other agencies to coordinate private and public space research. Beginning with its first successful satellite launch in 1970, Japanese space science has been steadily gaining ground on the two space superpowers, the US and former Soviet Union.

Japan rocket development has proceeded quickly and many plans are hinged on the success of their biggest booster to date, the H-II, which is scheduled for launch early next year. The booster is supposed to be a prime component of the H-II orbiting plane (HOPE), possibly Japan's first manned spacecraft. Recent changes, however, have made the first HOPE an unmanned vehicle in order to meet its development schedule.

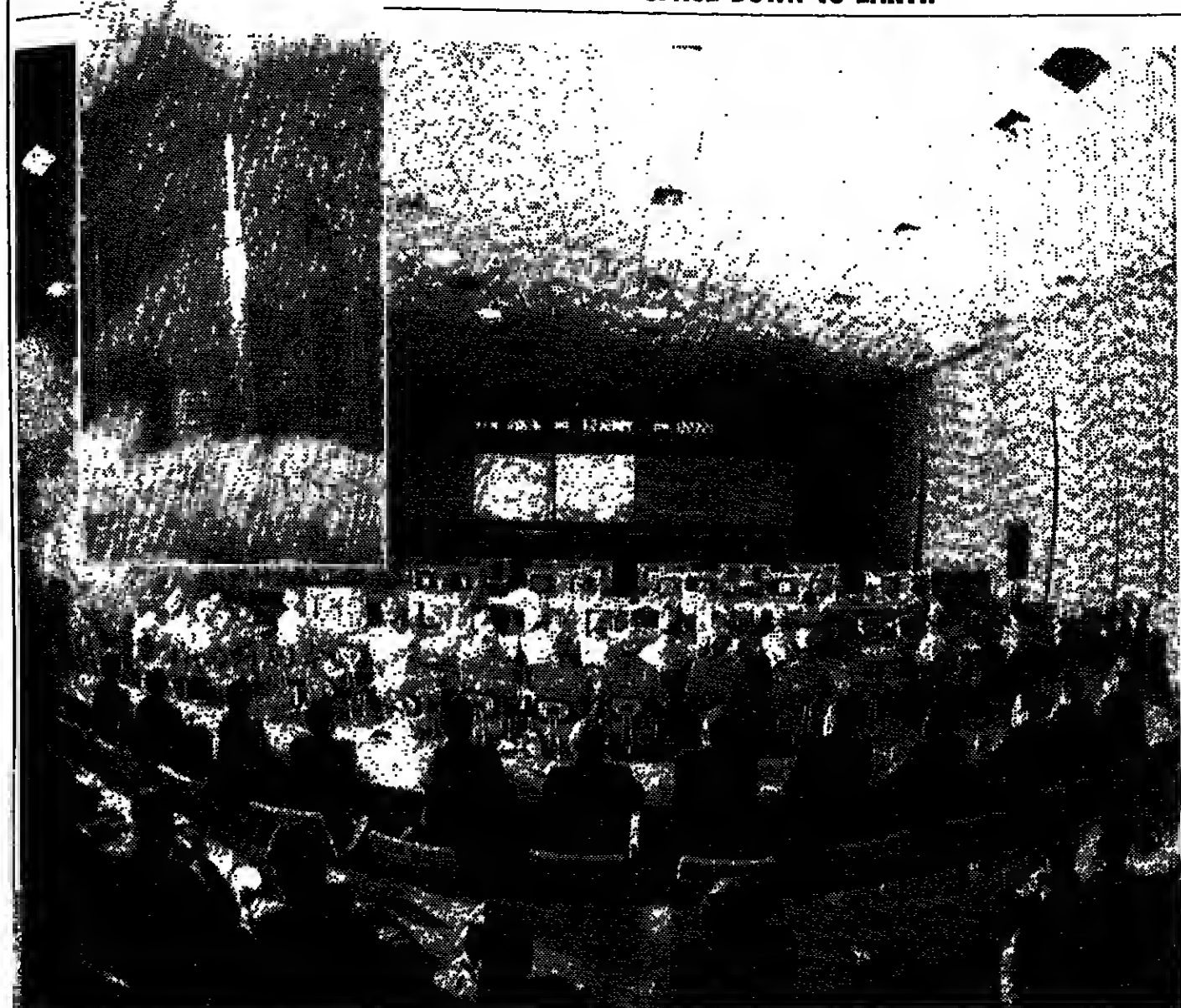
Japan plans also to build a permanently manned module for the international space station Freedom, which eventually will be a base for European, US and Japanese research teams. The Japanese module, scheduled to be launched in orbit by the US space shuttle in 1998, will be a laboratory for low-gravity experimentation and a platform for Earth observation.

The Institute of Space and Astronautical Sciences, which works with universities and other research facilities, has launched many scientific satellites, including the first non-US, non-Soviet lunar satellite that collected data for future manned missions. Japan is willing to cooperate with the US on moon missions and plans to launch robot probes to the moon by the late 1990s.

The immediate goal is to place robot rovers on the moon's surface to collect soil and mineral samples which would be placed on a return vehicle and blasted off to Earth. Other scientific probes will follow with the aim of finding a suitable spot for permanently manned lunar bases. The bases would be used for mineral and other scientific research, and as a way station for more ambitious projects—to Mars and possibly beyond.

Hideo Udagawa is staff reporter for the Tokyo weekly *Asahi*.

SPACE DOWN TO EARTH



At left: The satellite control center in Xi'an.
Inset: Long March-2E lifts off from the Xichang Launch Center.

on to a basic principle: self-reliance." When relations between China and the Soviet Union soured around 1960, resulting in an abrupt cutoff of Soviet aid for the space program, Chinese scientists had to shift from following Soviet examples to independent research. In the mid-1960s they made a breakthrough in liquid-fuel technology and in 1964 China launched its first carrier rocket, marking its entry into the Space Age. As research on missiles progressed, says Luan, capabilities were enhanced to carry sophisticated instruments, marking the beginning of civilian application of military space technology.

The most frequently used rockets are the LM-2 and LM-3. The LM-2 is a two-stage liquid-fuel rocket able to send a 2,500 kilogram payload into near-earth orbit. It blasted off all of China's recoverable satellites. An improved LM-2, the LM-2E, has been recently developed to launch Australian-owned communications satellites. With the addition of four boosters, its payload capability for near-earth orbit has been raised to 9,200 kilograms.

LM-3 is a three-stage rocket able to send communications satellites into a geostationary orbit, which places a satellite above a fixed location. The rocket uses low-temperature liquid hydrogen and oxygen as the propellant of its third stage. The LM-3 has been launched on eight missions, six of them successful.

But China still lags in satellite technology. Its communications satellites, for example, have only four transponders each and short lives. But they serve their purpose, transmitting all China Central Television Station programs and providing service for 7,000 simultaneous telephone calls. Scientists are now developing a 29-transponder model called the East-Is-Red-3 to transmit six color TV channels and 8,000 simultaneous telephone calls. It will have a life span of up to 10 years.

The 12 recoverable satellites for remote sensing have contributed to national defense, agriculture, forestry, geological prospecting and environmental protection, among other uses. The 11 scientific experimental satellites have laid a foundation for developing new satellites and contributed to the exploration of outer space. The Aerospace Ministry estimates Chinese satellites created direct economic benefits worth US\$777 million from 1986 to 1990, which is 10 times expenditures.

According to a report said to have been approved recently by the government, by the end of the century China will be researching manned missions into outer space. "The payload capability of our near-earth-orbit rockets has reached 9,200 kilograms, enough to carry a spaceship," says chief engineer Luan. "And training of astronauts has been going on for years." But experts agree that a manned mission is not likely to take place until early next century.

China joins the race for space profits

Recent setback won't hold up cooperation and busy launch schedule

BY CHEN ZHANG
in Beijing, China

MILLIONS OF Chinese viewers missed a collective heartbeat last March when they watched on live TV the failure of a Chinese rocket that was supposed to launch into space an Australian communications satellite. Following ignition, smoke at the base of the rocket was the only sign of activity, and viewers realized with disbelief that it was not going to budge an inch.

The cause of the failure, announced a month later by China's Aerospace Ministry, was a tiny amount of excess aluminum particles in the electric firing devices of the carrier rocket. They triggered a micro explosion when the firing circuit was connected, causing a shutdown of two of the four booster engines. The automatic shutdown saved the expensive US-made satellite, the rocket and ground facilities.

The viewers' disbelief at the setback was understandable, given the past success of their country's space industry. It has developed a whole range of Long March (LM) carrier rockets, sent 33 satellites into space, constructed three launch sites and built up a global satellite telemetry and tracking network. The

first satellite launch for an international customer, in 1990, was a resounding success, rocketing into orbit a communications satellite (Asiasat 1) owned by a Hong Kong consortium and made by the Hughes Aircraft company in the US. Chinese engineers are now working around the clock for an early relaunch of the Australian satellite.

The recent setback has not discouraged other international customers. A month after the aborted launch, the Great Wall Industrial Corporation (GWIC), a trade arm of the Aerospace Ministry, signed an agreement with US-based Intelsat to launch a communications satellite in early 1996.

China's entry into the international market for satellite launching has been motivated by commercial interest. Economic reform has compelled the space industry, formerly shrouded in secrecy, to finance its own development.

Industry officials have revealed that total state investment during the past three decades amounts to less than what the US spends annually on its space programs. However, they are confident that, because of low production costs resulting from cheap labor and materials, Chinese launching services are competitive.

Nonetheless, the road to commercial success on the world market has proved rough. Officials of Paris-based ArianeSpace, a private French company responsible for the European Space

Agency's Ariane satellite operations, accused China of unfair pricing of its launching services. After the Tiananmen Square violence, the US government imposed a ban, now lifted, on the export of satellite technology to China.

But with low launch prices and rocket reliability, a number of launching contracts have been won, including the launch of a Swedish satellite for scientific experiments. Earlier, the GWIC had successfully provided piggyback services on its recoverable satellites for French and German research devices.

Commercial efforts abroad have been matched by endeavors at home. Before economic reform began in 1979, China's space industry was almost entirely military. Today, products sold for civilian use account for more than 70 percent of its total earnings. Its products include automatic control devices, vehicles, textile machines, consumer electronics and communications equipment. The industry's TV commercials unabashedly promote its products as more high tech than others.

China's space industry has been built on a Third World industrial base, according to Wang Jungfen, a spokesman for the Aerospace Ministry. "We've relied on highly motivated people to accomplish things," says Wang.

"We started by making a new weapons system," says Luan Enjie, a chief engineer for the ministry. "We've held

Chen Zhang is a reporter for Xinhua, the New China News Agency.

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Euro-space settles for less

Saves money, seeks allies

BY TARA PATEL
in Paris, France

GETTING THE 13 member countries of the European Space Agency (ESA) to agree on anything has been compared to trying to dance with an octopus. But last November they did manage to agree on a message to ESA: cut costs or find international partners, such as the US, Japan or Russia, to help pay the bills.

ESA was given one year to modify its US\$50 billion, 14-year long-term program, which includes plans for a shuttle, Hermes (now postponed until 2005 at the earliest) and a set of orbiting laboratories, Columbus, as part of an international space station.

The 13 ministers of space policy also cut ESA's 1992 budget by 5 percent to about \$2.5 billion, a fraction of the \$14 billion allocated last year to civil space by the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ESA was created in 1975 to achieve European cooperation in nonmilitary space research and technology development. Finland is now an associate member and Canada has signed an agreement of close cooperation. With headquarters in Paris, it employs some 2,000 people. Facilities include a space research and technology center in Noordwijk, the Netherlands, an operations center in Darmstadt, Germany, information systems in Frascati, Italy, an astronaut training center in Cologne, Germany, and ground stations in Belgium and Spain.

Member countries contribute to administrative costs and science programs according to their gross national product. This year, Germany is paying 23.4 percent, France 17.8 percent, Italy 16.4 percent, and Britain 14.6 percent. Small countries pay much less. Ireland, for example, is paying 0.6 percent.

Some ESA projects are funded on an "a la carte" basis: members show their interest in various projects by funding them. France contributes by far the most—about 45 percent of the cost—toward the development of Hermes and Ariane 5, the next generation of European satellite launch vehicles. Germany is funding about 38 percent of the Columbus laboratory program.

ESA spokesman Roger Elaerts says the agency is mainly seeking cooperation with NASA on the projects, although it is also spending about \$4 mil-

Tara Patel, a former reporter for the Montreal daily *The Gazette*, is a Paris-based writer.

lion to study the feasibility of working with the Russians on Hermes—a prospect which now seems unlikely. The projects are also getting worked over by the budgeting department and will most likely be approved and funded in three phases instead of all at once.

This wavering is part of a political tug-of-war between France, Europe's space master, and Germany, where the costs of reimbursement are playing havoc with the economy. Franz Spaunhorst, spokesman for the German Space Agency in Bonn, says Germany knows the projects can't go ahead without it, "but there is a gray zone between pulling out and forging ahead right away."

"France was ready to approve the projects," says one French official, "but we realized just how serious Germany's economic problems really are and that a consensus would be difficult to reach." Still, he insists, European autonomy in space is both necessary and possible: "Industrialized nations can't be at the forefront of technology without a space industry, and technology can't be at its most sophisticated level without space research."

When NASA flatly refused to launch European commercial satellites in the 1970s, France decided to develop its own system. The first Ariane was successful-

ly launched on Christmas Eve 1979 from Kourou in French Guyana. The Ariane family of launchers is now the jewel in ESA's program and the justification for European space ambitions.

Last year, Arianespace, the private French company responsible for Ariane operations, controlled 50 percent of the global commercial satellite launching market. It has a backlog of two to three years and firm orders for 34 launches worth \$2.5 billion.

"We wouldn't have developed Ariane if NASA had let us use their system and the same holds true for manned space operations," ESA spokesman Elaerts says. "We must keep our options open by having our own program even though cooperation with other nations would be the best ideal."

But some critics, including many scientists, have viewed ESA's human space flight plans as a ludicrous waste of money. Jacques Blamont, an atmosphere specialist at the French National Center for Space Studies, wants to see plans for Hermes and Columbus scrapped, rather than postponed.

Blamont, who is part of the space research committee of the prestigious French Academy of Sciences which has been highly critical of the projects, says that putting astronauts in space serves

no scientific purpose, and is only politically justified to keep people employed in the space industry. He insists that similar space missions can be carried out using robots.

"There is a lack of creativity in the space industry," says Blamont. "People are still living with the ideas of the 1960s. Space pioneers have now been replaced by bureaucrats."

In addition to a 5 percent increase in the science budget each year through 1994, ESA is planning heavy investment in telecommunications to help European industry compete with Japan and the US. It is also preparing to launch the second European remote sensing satellite, the ERS-2, to observe Earth's environment, and to construct a \$1 billion Polar Orbit Earth Observation Mission to monitor ozone depletion, ocean temperatures, and climate change.

But the decision by the ministers to review ESA's budget annually makes long-term planning difficult. Former Director General Relmar Luest, who works at the Max Planck Institute for Meteorology, says: "Progress reports would be fine, but I know politicians. They like spectacular decisions, lots of publicity and results in a hurry. That doesn't happen every year in this industry." ♦

A new age of telephone tyranny

Satellite-linked cordless phone network to span the globe

HAVE YOU EVER seen a busy executive talking on a cellular phone from a swimming pool or Mercedes? If US-based Motorola Inc. succeeds, within a few years you may see a bedouin in the Sahara, a lumberjack in the Russian taiga or a rescue mission in the Himalayas phoning any place on Earth from hand-held radio-telephones.

Motorola calls it the Iridium system, a global personal communication system which will use a network of 77 satellites to transmit calls made by portable phones. The system is named after the element iridium, which has 77 electrons orbiting its nucleus.

Iridium, according to Motorola, will make it possible for subscribers to call, fax, page, or send data to remote locations anywhere at anytime. Surface "gateway" facili-

ties in various countries will link the Iridium system to public telephone networks. It is designed to work also through either the satellite network or ground-based cellular systems, depending on which is more efficient.

The handsets will be similar to today's cellular phones and will be able to display information such as latitude, longitude, altitude, and Greenwich Mean Time. Options will allow fax and data transmission. Motorola plans to launch the first satellites in 1994 and plans to have the entire system in place by 1996.

But with the Iridium system initially projected to cost over US\$5 billion, some industry analysts believe the cost could reach even higher. The price of the portable phone is estimated to begin at \$3,500, the cost of

the calls are estimated to be around \$3 a minute.

As a positive sign of the project's potential, six industrial partners have already signed on to help with its development: British Aerospace, Deutsche Aerospace, General Electric, Lockheed, Mstra Marconi and Raytheon. But not everyone wanting to get a piece of Motorola's action has become a development partner.

Competition in the global personal communications field has already emerged. AT&T, initially seen by some analysts as an Iridium partner, may be trying to develop a satellite-based cellular system of its own. The International Maritime Satellite Organization (Inmarsat) is already developing a satellite-based paging system capable of transmitting written messages on a small screen. The paging system is expected to be considerably cheaper than the satellite-linked portable phone system.

—By Shome Chowdhury in Boston

AROUND TOWN



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Graduations, appointments, engagements, weddings, newborns, promotions, special awards, excellent achievements.....

Drop us a line and send a photo...we will run it free of charge in The Star's People and Events page.

Fashion:

The politics of style

By Eleanor Lambert

1992 HAS been election year all over the world, with countries choosing between new and old leaders, and having a terrible time finding candidates they honestly like and trust.

Historians and politicians agree that there has never been such a year of general indecision, and that may explain why the fashion world is having such a hard time. High prices, the recession, and the woe of the big retail establishments have never seemed con-

vincing reasons for the fact that women everywhere are longing desperately for a change, but keep repeating, "There's absolutely nothing I really want to buy!"

Maybe the fashion world's trouble is that strong leaders exist but they are pulling in opposite directions. On the one hand there is the drive toward believing in aggressive, provocative clothes or unisex designs.

The other strong "party" is conservative, traditional and romantic, but not all that exciting. To combine the two into a third party would be too complex for most designers to handle, but all women over 20 seem to be longing for a designer with a real, believable new direction.

The French socialist government is in turmoil, threatened with a swing to the Far Right in politics, while French fashion is moving rapidly to the Left. The classic Chanel suit has almost disappeared at the rip-roaring hands of Karl Lagerfeld.

Christian LaCroix, who started out as the Prince Charming of romantic fashion, is becoming more and more eccentric and less and less wearable. Only Yves Saint Laurent and Givenchy remain as voices of reason, but their hearts are not in the avant garde.

In Italy, Armani and Versace represent the two opposite extremes with Valentino as a glitzy third-party leader for the rich. But Armani is not feminine enough, and Versace too "show biz" to have a solid majority.

In America, the front-runners stand for opposite extremes.

whom luck always turns sour. He later becomes involved with "Little Dorrit," whose story is told in part two, which will be shown on Monday, 6 July.

Agenda

Film:

■ On Sunday, 5 July at 7 pm, the British Council will be presenting part one of the Dickens movie, "Nobody's Fault". This film is about Arthur Clennam, a kind but ineffectual man for

Exhibition:

■ The British Council will be presenting an exhibition entitled "Exploring Science." Exploring Science is a completely new type of exhibition, inviting visitors to get their hands on the ex-



There is no powerful "compromise" candidate unless it's Carolina Herrera. Bill Blass, Geoffrey Beane, Ralph Lauren, Arnold Scaasi, Josie Natori and Zoran represent the Right, but with no New Deal ensured. On the Left, Calvin Klein, Donna Karan, Isaac Mizrahi and Norma Kamali, but so far no workable New Deal either.

Not one of them has offered an appealing look-of-the-nineties that will get enough votes to sweep the world.

The two pictures shown here so obviously illustrate the huge chasm between the two styles philosophies of today. Look at the contrast. Tough or tender; which gets your vote? ■

Gulf Air to add Melbourne and Amsterdam to its network

■ GULF AIR will add Melbourne and Amsterdam to its network of over 40 destinations from July 1992.

From that date, Gulf Air's current two flights a week to Sydney will be increased to three with all flights going on to Melbourne. Flights will depart Bahrain at 8:00 pm on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays going Singapore and Sydney to reach Melbourne on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays.

Amsterdam will also be served three times a week, via Frankfurt. Flights will leave Bahrain on Monday and Fridays at 12:30 am and from Doha on Saturdays at 12:30 am.

Gulf Air is the only airline to operate a direct service between Australia and the Middle East and its flight to Bahrain offers direct connections to most of its 40 worldwide destinations.

The route will be operated by the recently purchased wide-body Boeing 767-300 Extended Range aircraft with popular late evening departures of 8:55 pm from Sydney and 11:50 pm from Melbourne.

All three frequencies to Australia will offer significant cargo capacity to an from the Gulf, and would benefit producers of high demand perishables such as fruits, vegetables and meat.

Gulf Air's current 40 destinations are on the continents of Asia, Africa, Europe and Australia.



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Le Jourdain

Section française du Star

FRANÇOIS MITTERRAND tout de se refaire une santé politique. Après s'être érigé en chevalier de Maastricht, ce qui lui a valu une hausse de six points dans le dernier baromètre Louis Harris-L'Express, (43% d'opinions favorables), le Président français entend maintenant évoluer dans les hautes sphères de l'Histoire. Dernière initiative remarquée: François Mitterrand a répondu favorablement à l'appel du 18 juin, lancé par le président bosniaque, Alija Izetbegovic. Un véritable "appel au secours". Selon l'écrivain Bernard-Henry Lévy, qui a transmis le message à l'Élysée, le président bosniaque "demandait que M. Mitterrand fasse pression sur ses partenaires et alliés pour mettre en œuvre une solution militaire à Sarajevo. Il pouvait s'agir, selon M. Izetbegovic, soit de l'installation de militaires pour mettre en place un couloir humanitaire à Sarajevo, soit d'une frappe chirurgicale destinée à neutraliser les pièces d'artillerie qui tiraient sur la ville".

Surprise générale

François Mitterrand a créé la surprise générale: il a passé six heures, dimanche dernier, dans la capitale bosniaque, ville dévastée par deux mois et demi de combats. "Je crois à la force symbolique des actes" a déclaré le Président français pour justifier ce voyage. François Mitterrand, accompagné de Bernard Kouchner, ministre de la Santé et de l'Action humanitaire, arrivé dans la matinée en hélicoptère aux couleurs de la France, est reparti par les mêmes moyens de cette ville en ruines. Le Président français était le premier à utiliser cet aéroport, seul espoir pour 450.000 habitants soumis aux pilonnages quotidiens de l'artillerie des milices serbes. Il s'est ensuite entretenu avec son homologue bosniaque, avant de se rendre, sous bonne escorte, dans les rues de Sarajevo et de visiter des blessés dans un hôpital.

Mitterrand, vous êtes notre dernier espoir. "Merçi pour votre courage", "Mitterrand Bosnia", clamaient les habitants de Sarajevo au passage du Président français. Protégés par les casques bleus français de la FORPRONU (Forces de protection des Nations Unies), François Mitterrand et Alija Izetbegovic ont déposé une rose dans une rue piétonne, où il y a un mois, un obus avait tué une vingtaine de personnes. "Quand on voit vraiment une population prisonnière, soumise à des coups meurtriers, on éprouve un immense sentiment de solidarité", a déclaré le Président français. Anticipant les critiques,

Avant de repartir par les airs, le Président français et le général canadien, Lewis Mackenzie, chef de la FORPRONU, ont rencontré des représentants serbes. Motif: la négociation de la réouverture de l'aéroport bosniaque. Une entreprise qui a porté ses fruits, puisque lundi soir à 17h10 GMT, une demi-heure après l'évacuation des derniers soldats serbes, les casques bleus de la FORPRONU ont hissé leur drapeau sur l'aéroport de Sarajevo. Lundi, le Conseil de sécurité des

Nations Unies a autorisé le déploiement immédiat d'un millier de ses soldats pour assurer la sécurité de ce lieu stratégique. La visite impromptue de François Mitterrand à Sarajevo a été saluée lundi par Washington, qui a noté le "courage" du Président français. "Nous applaudissons ce voyage, a déclaré le porte-parole du Département d'État, Margaret Tutwiler, il souligne l'immersion des besoins." Le Roi Hussein de Jordanie a fait part de son "intérêt et de son admiration". Mais nombre de commentateurs officiels européens, bien que saluant l'initiative, ont regretté le secret bien gardé autour de cette visite à Sarajevo. Bonn a d'abord marqué sa surprise dimanche, avant de corriger le tir lundi, en mettant l'accent sur l'aspect "courageux et respectable" de la démarche du Président Mitterrand. Le Secrétaire au Foreign Office, Douglas Hurd, préférait quant à lui noter "l'acte courageux d'un président âgé". C'est un geste "généreux, mais solitaire", regretait lundi le ministre luxembourgeois des Affaires étrangères et vice-Premier

ministre, Jacques Poos. Selon le Premier ministre belge, Jean-Luc Dehaene, "une action concertée vaut certainement mieux qu'un coup d'éclat individuel dont on ne voit pas très bien quelles pourraient être les conséquences durables". Le Secrétaire général de l'Union de l'Europe Occidentale (UEO), le Néerlandais Wim van Beek, a pour sa part manifesté un "respect" sans réserve à cette action française. Selon ce dernier, "tout le monde parle, mais M. Mitterrand est le seul à faire quelque chose, et la France est peut-être le seul pays qui se fait écouter par la Serbie".

En France, les éditeurs de la presse de lundi matin ont souligné le "panache" de cette initiative, tout en s'interrogeant sur ses conséquences diplomatiques. Libération, quotidien de gauche, estime que M. Mitterrand "a non seulement fait, un beau geste, mais un geste habile et qui plus est, efficace". Le Figaro, quotidien conservateur, s'est lancé dans une comparaison entre François Mitterrand et le Général de Gaulle: "Au cœur d'une guerre, il n'a pas hésité à braver bombes et

balles... Toi de Gaulle effectuant une plongée dans un sous-marin de la force de dissuasion pour rendre hommage aux matelots que venait d'engloutir un bâtiment jumeau". A l'exception d'un M. Le Pen bien isolé, qui dénonce ce qu'il appelle "un coup de bluff", aucun homme politique français n'a mis en doute la sincérité du Président Mitterrand. Mais cette visite a mis dans l'embarras une opposition déjà mal en point et divisée: à l'aube des élections législatives de 1993, Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, chef de l'Union pour la Démocratie Française (UDF) se de loin, émit le commentaire le plus réservé. Ce dernier s'est borné à saluer "le geste humanitaire", tout en soulignant "que rien ne sépare l'action de la France de celle de ses partenaires européens". Les "tenors" de l'opposition craignent que cette initiative ne donne un coup de fouet à la popularité de François Mitterrand. Et qu'elle renforce le camp des pro-européens à moins de trois mois du référendum sur la ratification du traité de Maastricht. Francis Mazoyer (Avec AFP)

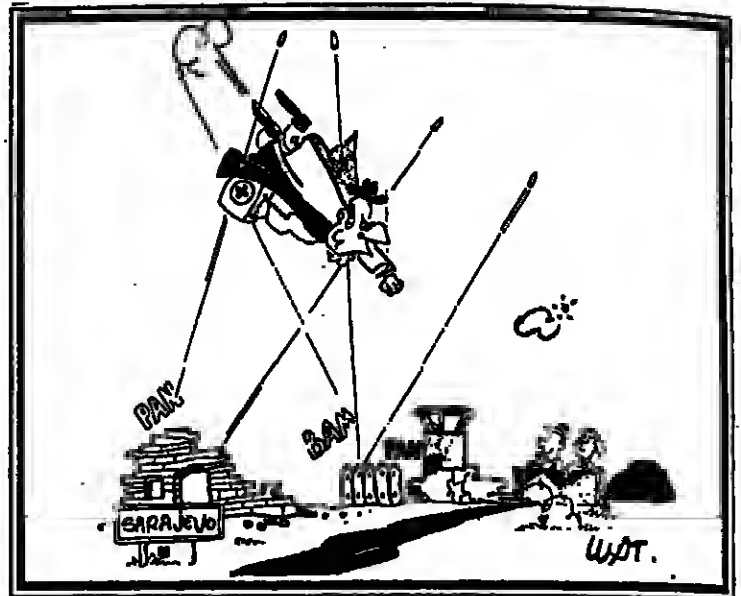
Mission "humanitaire"

Mitterrand se pose à Sarajevo

Le Président Français a créé la surprise générale dimanche, en effectuant une visite de six heures dans la capitale bosniaque. Une ville décimée par deux mois et demi de combats en plein cœur de l'Europe



François Mitterrand dans les rues de Sarajevo



Nouvelles de Pétra Tahar Ben Jelloun: "Pétra, merveille du monde"

L'écrivain arabe de langue française revient de la cité nabatéenne. Il est le dernier des douze auteurs à participer au projet commun du Service culturel français et du ministère du Tourisme jordanien. Sortie du livre au printemps prochain

"C'EST UNE des merveilles de l'histoire de l'humanité. Une histoire sans début ni fin. C'est le miracle du monde". Telles sont les impressions, livrées à chaud, par Tahar Ben Jelloun, cet "enfant du désert marocain", lors de sa récente visite à Pétra. Ben Jelloun, Prix Goncourt 1987 pour son roman "La Nuit Sacrée", sans doute l'écrivain arabe le plus connu en France, est le douzième et dernier auteur à participer au projet "Des nouvelles de Pétra". Dirigé par le Service culturel de l'ambassade de France et par le ministère jordanien du Tourisme, celui-ci prévoit la sortie d'un livre, en français et en arabe au printemps 1993.

Incarnation de l'éternité

Objectif: faire connaître la cité nabatéenne encore méconnue des masses occidentales. Dans son texte à venir, Tahar Ben Jelloun va faire partager sa passion nouvelle pour Pétra. En quelques heures, il a découvert ce lieu exceptionnel. L'écrivain a scruté les vestiges qui l'entouraient, tant la pierre, examinée les reliefs et les traces des pèdes dans le dédale de la cité rose. Comme s'il cherchait à entrevoir qu'une seule solution: le militantisme. "Nous devons militer pour la culture. Il y a beaucoup de gens qui le font pour des idées politiques. Moi, je considère qu'il faut aussi s'engager pour faire connaître notre patrimoine. Ce sera peut-être un moyen pour redonner un peu de fierté à nos jeunes qui sont parfois désespérés par la politique actuelle".

Au cours de son périple jordanien, Ben Jelloun, arabe qui écrit dans une langue étrangère n'a pas manqué de susciter la curiosité et les questions. Les réponses de l'écrivain sur ce terrain ont été toutes les petites guerres" affirme Ben Jelloun. Et d'ajouter: "Je suis fier de savoir que nos ancêtres, les Nabatéens, des Arabes, ont eu cette espèce de génie de creuser dans la roche et de faire des choses inimaginables, même pour nos sociétés modernes. Je suis également fier que cette merveille existe, sur une terre arabe, et dans un pays comme la Jordanie pour lequel j'ai beaucoup de sympathie".

Ben Jelloun était un livre ouvert. "Que voudrait-on y lire? Une histoire incroyable, affirme

l'écrivain, un texte éternel en dehors de toutes les modes, en dehors de toutes les petites choses de la vie quotidienne". Ce sont les seuls indices laissés par Tahar Ben Jelloun sur sa contribution.

Lors de son voyage, un éclair de tristesse est passé, rapidement, dans les yeux de l'écrivain. Le signe d'une incompréhension, du reste justifiée. Errant entre les vestiges de la cité rose, il a croisé des gens de toutes les nationalités, des Américains, des Allemands, des Japonais, des Français...

Mais peu d'Arabes: "Je crois qu'ils ne connaissent pas les trésors de leur civilisation. Ils ont peut-être oublié ce qu'ils sont fait en Andalousie et qu'ils possèdent le site magnifique de Pétra. Je le regrette énormément. Les lieux de ce type, nous devons les montrer à nos enfants. Il faut qu'ils fassent connaissance avec l'histoire de leurs ancêtres".

Pour faire face au désert culturel, dont est victime la jeunesse arabe, Tahar Ben Jelloun n'entrevoit qu'une seule solution: le militantisme. "Nous devons militer pour la culture. Il y a beaucoup de gens qui le font pour des idées politiques. Moi, je considère qu'il faut aussi s'engager pour faire connaître notre patrimoine. Ce sera peut-être un moyen pour redonner un peu de fierté à nos jeunes qui sont parfois désespérés par la politique actuelle".

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Tahar Ben Jelloun

les cordes. "Un grand nombre d'écrivains occidentaux célèbres comme Kafka ou Beckett l'ont fait, et personne n'a osé les critiquer pour cela". Ben Jelloun surprenait: "Lorsque nous, les Arabes, nous faisons la même chose, nous nous retrouvons de suite dans le box des accusés". Pourquoi? "Si je trahi mon âme arabe? Suis-je contre ma marocaineté et mon arabité?" Le débat devient fertile et sans valeur. "La Nuit Sacrée" a été audité en plus de vingt-cinq langues. Dans ce cas, on oublie presque le texte original. Au Maroc, tous les ouvrages de Tahar Ben Jelloun ont été traduits en arabe. Une entreprise qu'il a supervisée personnellement: "Malheureusement, l'éditeur marocain qui par ailleurs fait un excellent travail, souffre le martyr en tentant de les commercialiser ailleurs dans le monde arabe". C'est sans doute une des raisons qui motive Tahar Ben Jelloun à choisir la France en tant que mode d'expression littéraire. "De nos jours, explique-t-il, le livre arabe ressemble à l'homme arabe. Pour voyager d'un pays à l'autre, il lui faut un visa". Un jugement sévère qui correspond à une réalité amère. Ben Jelloun: "Il existe toujours, quelque part, un censeur pour interdire un livre,

quel qu'il soit et aussi simple qu'il soit". Autre réseau dont souffrent les auteurs arabes: le "piratage" des œuvres. En 1988, lors d'un voyage au Caire, Ben Jelloun est tombé sur un marchand de livres avec deux fausses traductions de "La Nuit Sacrée". Celles-ci trahissaient le texte original. Autre anecdote: "Un jour, raconte Ben Jelloun, j'ai rencontré un éditeur libanais qui publiait des traductions piratées et approximatives de mes œuvres. Il m'a dit que dans son pays où l'on ne respectait pas l'être humain, l'on avait aucune raison de le faire pour un texte".

Interrogé enfin, sur les risques encourus dans nos pays par certains écrivains, Ben Jelloun a répondu de manière franche et directe: "La vie démolit notre humanité et personne n'ose protester. Mais lorsqu'un écrivain tente de mettre tout cela à nu, on s'insurge et on l'en empêche. Cela peut même aller jusqu'à le meurtre, comme dans le cas de l'Égyptien Faraj Fouta". "C'est le plus grand danger qui nous guette dans le monde arabe", ajoute Tahar Ben Jelloun. À savoir assassiner un homme de lettres qui n'a fait de mal à personne mais qui a exprimé ses idées". ■

Samir Khader

L'EDITO

De Amine Ghannouchi

Problème de langue?

"DES NOUVELLES de Pétra" a permis de découvrir une pléiade d'écrivains arabes et occidentaux. Deuxième objectif: faire connaître ce site merveilleux, magique et enchanteur, à des plumes en mesure d'interpréter Pétra. Celles-ci transmettront des messages, dont elles seules sont capables, à l'audience que nous sommes. Dans ce cadre, l'un des douze auteurs invités, Tahar Ben Jelloun, a été singulièrement médiatisé du fait de ses origines. L'accueil généreux réservé à un Arabe a été digne de l'hospitalité du pays, mais la réaction de certains à l'égard de la langue de Molière qu'il maîtrise à la perfection, de "La Réclusion Solitaire" à "La Nuit Sacrée", en passant par "Moha le fou, Moha le sage", a été en deça des espoirs de Tahar.

L'écrivain semblait désarmé devant cette question: pourquoi un Arabe écrit-il en français? Parce que pour l'écrivain et pour nous, la langue ne pose pas de problème. Donc la question ne doit même pas se poser. Il se trouve que le Français est sa langue adoptive, donc mère. Mais pas maternelle. Et cela suffit.

S'étaler sur ces questions byzantines priverait l'homme et son œuvre de la valeur et de la consécration non seulement d'un prix Goncourt, mais aussi d'une audience mondiale. Laissons les détails de côté et essayons de découvrir l'univers de Tahar Ben Jelloun, tel un visiteur qui découvre pour la première fois les merveilles de Pétra.

Cet écrivain arabe et musulman représente une partie importante de l'identité culturelle de l'intellectuel arabe moderne, qui sans complexe, exploite une langue étrangère qu'il maîtrise, pour générer des œuvres uniques. Car l'essentiel c'est d'écrire, et bien, comme le fait Tahar Ben Jelloun.

Se borner à des questions légères et douteuses sur le pourquoi de la langue, c'est faire preuve de myopie, pour ne pas dire d'aveuglement total. Car lorsque Tahar est arrivé en Jordanie, pour nous présenter ses œuvres, il fallait les regarder au fond, et non pas se limiter à des coups d'œil superficiels. Une condition sine qua non pour que ce proverbe chinois ne s'applique pas: "Quand le sage montre la lune, l'idiot regarde le doigt". ■

The Star

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The Star's TV GUIDE

Programs on
Jordan
Television
from
4 July
- 10 July

ENGLISH PROGRAM

SATURDAY

8:30 — Super Bloopers.
9:00 — Encounter.
10:00 — News in English.
10:20 — Naked Under Capricorn. New mini series set in Australia. A gang of thieves kidnap a vicar and his wife and abandon them in the desert. They are found by a horse rancher and live among the aborigines.

SUNDAY

8:30 — Wings.
9:10 — Documentary: Unknown Australia.
10:00 — News in English.
10:20 — Naked Under Capricorn. Part 2.

MONDAY

8:30 — Close to Home.
9:10 — Perfect Hero. New series about a pilot who survives World War II, after which he reassesses his life.
10:00 — News in English.
10:20 — Gold.

TUESDAY

8:30 — Aeropolis Now.
9:10 — Palace Guard.
10:00 — News in English.
10:20 — Feature Film. What Ever Happened To Baby Jane? Starring Vanessa Redgrave. A powerful psychological drama showing the love-hate relationship between two famous sisters who were movie stars in their youth.

WEDNESDAY

8:30 — Saved By The Bell.
9:10 — Wednesday Forum. A local program.

9:30 — Man of the People.
10:00 — News in English.
10:20 — Till we meet again.

THURSDAY

8:30 — The Simpsons.
9:10 — NBA Basketball.
10:00 — News in English.
10:20 — Movie of the Week: Golden Rod. Starring Tony Lobianco and Gloria Carlin. The movie charts the life of a rodeo champion, Jessie. After injuring himself he is left emotionally scarred. To improve his situation, he tries to return to his profession.



Scene from "Perfect Hero" on Monday at 9.10.

Session.

FRIDAY

8:30 — Please Don't Eat The Daisies.
9:10 — E.N.G.
10:00 — News in English.
10:20 — Inspector Marne.

FRENCH PROGRAM

SAMEDI

6:00 — Les Tortues Ninja.
6:25 — Les dessous des Cartes. A documentary program.
6:30 — La Gymnastique.
7:00 — News in French.
7:15 — Magazine Fenetre Sur.

A local program.

DIMANCHE

5:30 — Michel Vallant.
5:45 — Des chiffres et des lettres.
6:10 — La Chance Aux Chansons. A variety program.
7:00 — News in French.
7:15 — Magazine. E=M6.

LUNDI

6:00 — Au Claire de Lune.
6:10 — Le monde sous Marin de Jacques-Yves Cousteau: La Baleine Qui Chante.
7:00 — News in French.
7:15 — Magazine Sportif.

MARDI

6:00 — Les Aventures de Joe.
6:10 — Mantagne. A documentary program.
6:30 — Marc et Sophie.
7:00 — News in French.
7:15 — Le Cirque du Soleil.

MERCREDI

6:00 — Le Monde est à Vous.
7:00 — News in French.
7:15 — Intertropique. An agricultural magazine about Africa.

JEUDI

6:00 — Sanctuaires Sauvages.
6:30 — Maguy.
7:00 — News in French.
7:15 — Varieties.

VENDREDI

5:30 — Geoscope. A documentary program.
5:55 — Les Cles de Fort Boyard. Game show.
7:00 — News in French.
7:15 — Fusions.

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TOP POP SINGLES

1. My Lovin', En Vogue, ATCO
2. Jump, Kris Kross, Columbia
3. Damn I Wish I Was Your Lover, Sophie B. Hawkins, Columbia
4. Under the Bridge, Red Hot Chili Peppers, Warner Bros
5. In the Closet, Michael Jackson, MCA
6. Live and Learn, Joe Public, Columbia
7. The Best Things in Life are Free, Luther Vandross and Janet Jackson, Perspective
8. I'll Be There, Mariah Carey, Columbia
9. Baby Got Back, Sir Mix-A-Lot, Reprise
10. If You Asked Me To, Celine Dion, EPIC

HOME MOVIES

THE HAND THAT ROCKS THE CRADLE (Hollywood)

One of the year's earliest box-office hits, this effective thriller casts Rebecca De Mornay as a widow seeking revenge for her late husband's downfall by targeting the woman she holds responsible, posing as a nanny to gain entrance to the household... and to systematically assume her quarry's life. Matt McCoy co-stars. *** (R:AS, P, V)



Sylvester Stallone, star of "Stop! Or My Mum Will Shoot!"

HURRICANE SMITH (Warner)

Pretty much a case of "Action Jackson" in Australia, both figuratively and literally, this action opus stars Carl Weathers as a Texan who goes Down Under to search for his missing sister. His hunt brings him close to exposing the vice empire of a powerful criminal. Casandra Delaney, the ex-wife of singer John Denver is the female lead. ** (R:AS, P, V)

HEARTS OF DARKNESS: A FILMMAKER'S APOCALYPSE (Paramount)

Assembled from footage shot by Eleanor Coppola while her husband — the celebrated Francis Ford Coppola — was directing 1979's "Apocalypse Now", this documentary is a fascinating history of virtually everything that

can go wrong with the making of a big-budget movie... including Martin Sheen's near-fatal heart attack. *** (R:AS, P, V)

COMING SOON: STOP! OR MY MUM WILL SHOOT (MCA/Universal)

Sylvester Stallone plays a detective whose visiting mother will... and to systematically assume her quarry's life. Matt McCoy co-stars. *** (R:AS, P, V)

nesses a murder. (PG)

RATINGS:

* - don't bother, ** - not bad, *** - worth seeing, **** - excellent.

FAMILY GUIDE KEY:

P - profanity; V - violence; GV - particularly graphic violence; AS - adult situations.

HOROSCOPE

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TAURUS (20 April - 20 May): A shrewd move could help insure your family's security. Try to figure out what it is, and then do it!

GEMINI (21 May - 21 June): You'll be even more charming and persuasive than usual for the first two days of the week.

CANCER (22 June - 22 July): You're in luck all week, although there might be some resistance. If it's a good idea, adopt it.

LEO (23 July - 22 August): You'll be able to express yourself well all week, but it might seem like nobody's listening.

VIRGO (23 August - 22 September): Distractions will abound. You might as well stay home, except that you're probably needed. You'll make up for it later.

LIBRA (23 September - 22 October): You should love someone, but you might not get much done. If at first you don't succeed, try again.

SCORPIO (23 October - 21 November): You'll start feeling powerful. You'll be almost invincible. Put all your plans into effect.

fect. Don't procrastinate.

SAGITTARIUS (22 November - 21 December): The first of the week won't be too bad. Be very careful of what you say during the middle, though.

CAPRICORN (22 December - 19 January): Somebody may try to thwart your best plans. Act decisively and you'll step up a rung on the ladder of success.

AQUARIUS (20 January - 18 February): Present an innovation that will solve a major problem. Work out the bugs.

PISCES (19 February - 20 March): Arguments the first of the week could get in the way of a deadline. Don't worry, you'll catch up later.

IF YOU WERE BORN THIS WEEK: Monday or Tuesday, the lesson will be balancing home, family, and creative endeavors. It might be a challenge, but it also should be fun. If your birthday's Wednesday or Thursday, you'll make it big in business this year. If it's Friday through Sunday, your options could expand overseas.

The Star

TEL: 648 - 298

Would You Believe.....

Olympic gold medals aren't all gold. They are mostly silver coated with six grams of fine gold.

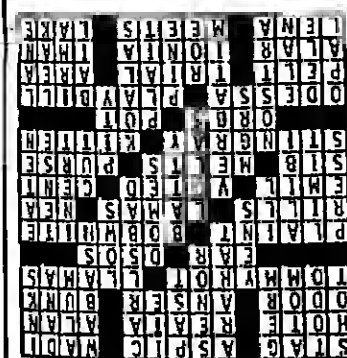
A physical ailment is said to have contributed to Napoleon's defeat at Waterloo — hemorrhoids — which prevented him from surveying the battlefield on horseback.

Jupiter, the largest planet in our solar system, has the shortest day. It takes only nine hours and 50 minutes to make a complete rotation on its axis.

British sailors are called limies in tribute to the discovery by a British naval surgeon that fresh limes cured the scurvy, so rampant among sailing crews.

Pablo Picasso was abandoned by his midwife just after his birth because she thought he was still-born. He was saved by an uncle.

Solution

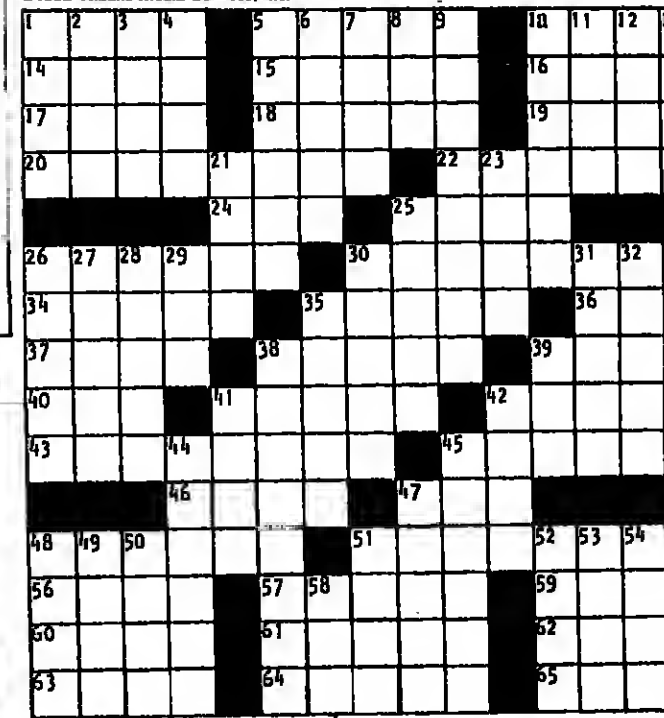


CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 Party for men only
5 Meat jelly
10 Gully
14 Table d'—
15 Laeso
16 King or Alde
17 Fragrance
18 Goose genus
19 Ship bed
20 Nonsense
22 Andean denizens
24 Cup handle
25 British decorations
28 Lamentation
30 Quail
34 Streamlets
35 Monks of Tibet
38 Teachers' org.
37 Jennings or Ludwig
38 Went to the polls
39 Copper
40 Relative

DOWN
1 Used a gun
2 Bustle
3 Physicist's concern
4 Seed
5 Resting place for Noah's ark
6 Madrid man
7 Over
8 Follower:
9 New Mexico
10 Terre
11 Heule's river
12 Astronaut
13 An Andrew
14 Signs
15 Yearning
16 Part of ancient Greece
17 "old cowhand"
18 Ms. Home
19 Conforms to
20 Ladoga, for one
21 Not well
22 Foolish
23 Sluggish
24 Nervous
25 Consumed
26 Ma. Montez and others
27 Word for word
28 Director's word
29 Team directors: abbr.
30 Compassion
31 Eucalyptus eaters
32 Fold
33 Ring stone
34 Remove
35 Verve
36 Evergreen
37 Set free, in a way
38 — is Douce
39 Plumbing problem
40 Path
41 Caviar base

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JORDAN BRIDGE

By Ghassan Ghanem

Fit for life

HERE ARE two hands played by Rahnda Abou Saoud, who managed an amazing execution while I, as her partner, watched her declare both hands with a lot of admiration. She fulfilled both contracts speedily and perfectly.

♠ A 3 2
♥ A K 10 8 6 4
♦ K J 5 3
♣ —

South West North East
3♣ 3♣ Pass 4♥
Pass 5♥ Pass 6♠
Pass Pass Pass —

Rahnda was sitting West and bid 3♣ over her R.H.O. preempt. According to our agreement, the bid shows a good suit of diamonds or two suited hand with diamonds and a major.

I jumped to 4♥, showing the ability to play the contract with the trumps tolerated, otherwise to bid 5♥. When she bid 5♥ I realized that she included a strong diamond suit and I bid 6♠.

A spade lead, which she ruffed, then she led the two top heart honors before cross ruffing the hand to her last trump.

"Cash your top winners before starting cross ruffing," Mrs. Akashah (who was one of our opponents on that hand) commented, with little desperation and a lot of admiration.

♠ 9 6 5 4
♥ A J 3
♦ K J 9 7 5
♣ 10

South West North East
Pass Pass Pass 1♣
Pass 1♣ Pass 1♥
Pass 2♣ (1) Pass 3♦ (3)
Pass 3♦ (2) Pass 4♣ (3)
Pass 5♦ Pass End.

(1) Do you have a spade stopper?
(2) Do you have a semi spade stopper?
(3) No I don't have.

Rahnda received a heart lead, played the eight from dummy and took South's ten with her Jack. She ducked a spade and won the diamond return in dummy.

After elimination through cross ruffing, Rahnda cashed the ♥ A and ducked her last heart to South, who had to give her the last heart in dummy.

"Curious line," Michel Edli said. "She made her last trick by elimination and endplay instead of a simple finesse." Michel, (who happened to be South in this particular hand), persisted with his usual smile.

THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"Oh, there goes Lenny again — draining off the goldfish bowl... Ha wants to one day work for the Army Corps of Engineers, you know."



Tha hard moved in around him, but Zach had known better than to approach thasa animals without his trusty bullate gum.



"And here he is, the author of the exciting autobiography, 'Shoe'."